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LANTAU 'PLANE CRASH

Four Believed Killed In R.A.F. Disaster

Police Officer A Passenger?

THE CREW OF THREE, AND A CIVILIAN PASSENGER, ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED WHEN A ROYAL AIR FORCE "DAKOTA" TRANSPORT 'PLANE CRASHED INTO WEST LANTAU PEAK LATE YESTERDAY MORNING. A SEARCH PARTY WHICH IS ON THE ISLAND HAD NOT ARRIVED AT THE SCENE OF THE CRASH AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

THE NAMES OF THE CREW HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED BY THE ROYAL AIR FORCE. IT IS BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CIVILIAN PASSENGER WAS SUB-INSPECTOR W. H. CARR, PASSPORT OFFICER AT KAI TAK CIVIL AIRFIELD. HE IS KNOWN TO HAVE GONE UP IN A 'PLANE YESTERDAY MORNING.

The missing Dakota took off from Kai Tak aerodrome yesterday morning to do some practice homing runs. Visibility was better than it has been for some days past, although clouds and mist occasionally obscured the tops of Taimoshan, Lantau and other high-lying ground. Other aircraft made normal arrivals and departures during the day.

The aircraft made two uneventful runs in and then flew off for the third time. At about 11 a.m., wireless communication from the 'plane was abruptly cut off. Nothing further was heard from her, nor did she reply to signals. It was possible that her wireless set had gone out of order and so no undue alarm was felt until noon when, with even a liberal allowance, she should have at least come in sight of the airfield again.

Another ten minutes passed, and when she still failed to reply to signals, the alarm was sent out. Her estimated position when her wireless went dead was over Lantau Island, and the search was started in that area.

Sea Otters flew out from H.M.S. "Nabcatcher," the Fleet Air Arm base at Kai Tak, while H.M.S. "Serene," Fleet minesweeper, and H.D.M/Ls 1105, 1106 and 1082, which were engaged in sweeping operations with "Serene" west of Hong Kong, combed the waters in the vicinity of Lantau Island in case the Dakota had come down in the sea.

Hour after hour went by with no news of the missing 'plane. Then, at 4.20 p.m., one of the patrolling Sea Otters called up Kai Tak and reported having seen a crashed aircraft on West Lantau Peak.

Broken Back

The Sea Otter said that the crashed 'plane was frequently hidden by mist, but it appeared to be a Dakota with its back broken and was probably on fire.

The Commandos on the island sent out parties and these were reinforced by an R.A.F. party which attempted to get through to the scene of the crash on foot before darkness fell. So far as was known last night, they had not done so and when rain added to the hazards of scrambling up rough terrain in almost "zero" visibility, operations were called off for the night.

The R.A.F. search party remained on the island and the search will be resumed at "first light" this morning.

No confirmation could be secured from official sources last night as to whether or not Sub-Inspector Carr was on the missing 'plane. It is known, however, that there was probably a civilian passenger, that Carr had gone up in a 'plane yesterday morning and that he had not returned to his office afterwards.

This is Hong Kong's second air crash within a week, the other (fortunately not fatal) occurring on March 19th, when Sub-Lieut. (A) Jackson, R.N.V.R., "ditched" his Corsair in Mirs Bay owing to bad weather and got ashore safely in his dinghy.

Serious Man-Power Shortage

London, March 26.

A frank revelation of the serious man-power and material shortages was made by Minister of Works Tomlinson in a Housing debate in the House of Commons last night. Exceptional effort would be needed from owners, workers and the Government, he declared, if disaster was to be averted.

The possibility of a disaster to plans for new homes, factories and public buildings faced the country if the co-operation of the workers and industry was withheld, the Minister added.

A brighter spot in the picture was that the production of some materials had risen from twenty-five to thirty per cent. with this co-operation.

"It seems to me that at time we have ever emphasised the need for getting out of the Services building trade workers, when we have not made sure that workers in the materials industries would precede them," said Tomlinson.

Up to February 28, 8,169 out of a total allocation of 19,000 building trade workers had been released from the Services. Every effort was being made to speed up labour recruitment and to employ German prisoners-of-war in building work.

Tomlinson announced that a scheme would shortly be introduced to allow a builder engaged on housing or other priority work to obtain preference in the supply of materials by quoting a priority number. There was, no doubt, he said, that considerable amounts of unlicenced and unnecessary building work was being done, and it was essential to cut out this "black market" if progress was to be made with houses. — Reuter.

FELLOW P.O.W. MURDERED

London, Mar. 26.

Herbert George Gibbs pleaded guilty on a charge of murdering a fellow prisoner-of-war in the Hakodate prisoner-of-war camp in Japan in March, 1943, before a court martial here today.

The hearing was adjourned sine die, the defence having insufficient time to prepare the case. — Reuter.

"You're A Liar" Says Petiot

Paris, March 26.

Madame Renee Guschinow, widow of a Pole alleged to have been murdered by Dr. Marcel Petiot in January, 1942, was to-day the first witness in the resumed trial of the 49-year old Paris doctor.

She told the court in a voice choking with emotion that she had sewn ten diamonds and several dollar bills in the coat of her husband when he left to see Petiot, who had promised to help him to escape to Argentina.

Boos rang through the court when Petiot, pointing a shaking finger at Madame Guschinow cried: "You are a liar." The witness had told the court that her husband had said before disappearing that Petiot was giving him injections "to conform with the Argentine health regulations."

The witness proceeded to tell the court that the first letter from her husband, after his departure, showed great disorder of mind, and was written in a shaky hand.

Petiot said to the witness: "You have read the newspapers and are inventing all this now."

The President of the Court interrupted to say: "Stop arguing: there are 80 more witnesses to be heard, and if each lasts as long we shall be here until July."—Reuter.

"BLUNDERING INTO WAR"

Los Angeles, March 26.

Doctor Robert Hutchins, chancellor of the University of Chicago, declares "We are blundering into war with Russia" because of American statesmen's "prejudices" or inability to cope with the problems of the atomic age.

"Messrs. Truman, Byrnes, Vandenberg and Churchill talk about maintaining peace by force, in senile disregard of the fact that force means war. I have no doubt their insistence that we have a secret about the atomic bomb is forcing other nations to develop deadlier gases and more effective ways of biological warfare. They do not understand that it is no longer possible to win a war. They will not understand that the alternatives beside us now are peace or suicide.

"What are our statesmen doing to avert this cataclysm which faces not only the people of this country, but the population of the world? They propose to have the largest army, navy and air force in the world. This was clearly enunciated by President Truman in his Navy Day speech. No statement starting off a world arms race could be clearer.

"More recently, the statements of Vandenberg and Byrnes have not been designed to help the cause of world peace. Rattling the atomic bomb can hardly be called 'inspiring trust in America's peaceful intentions'.

"The foreign policy upon which the United States is embarked is sheer folly and it will end in disaster. This policy is based on forces that are oblivious to the fact that a nation which uses force will perish in the act of using it."—Associated Press.

ALEKHINE DEAD

Lisbon, March 26.

Alexander Alekhine, world chess champion, is dead.

Alekhine, who was found dead yesterday at Estoril, a few miles from Lisbon, had been suffering from a bad heart and the possibility of sudden death had been predicted by his doctors.

Reports that he had committed suicide, based on a sampling poll, were stated to-day to be incorrect.—Reuter.

Solved

London, March 26.

A Moscow radio broadcast quoted Generalissimo Josef Stalin as saying that the question of the withdrawal of Russian troops from Iran was "Already solved in a positive sense by the agreement between the Soviet Government and Iran."

The statement was in reply to a telegram sent by Hugh Baillie, president of the United Press, asking Stalin's views on the international situation.—Associated Press.

Peace Good For 25 Years

Los Angeles, March 26.

Norman Chandler, publisher of the "Los Angeles Times" and a vice-president of the Associated Press, said to-day that the United States had demobilized too quickly and is too weak in the Pacific areas.

He wrote in the first of a series of articles dealing with his recent five-week tour of the Pacific war areas that "we are alarmingly weak militarily along the very line that the United States must hold from Hawaii to the Asiatic coast and Russia."

He said that "the American public might as well forget about surpluses and wastage in the Pacific," and added that Russia is the "new bugaboo in the Orient" and that her influence grows with leaps and bounds.

"But I doubt that the seeds of immediate war have been sown in Asia. My guess is that peace, of a sort, is good for another 25 years," he said.—Associated Press.

Iran

New York, Mar. 26.

The U.N.O. Security Council Meeting which is to discuss Iran opened at 4.11 p.m. G.M.T. to-day.

The Soviet delegate immediately submitted that the Iran question be excluded from the agenda because it was "not fit to be placed on the agenda."—Reuter.

Scientists In Secret Session

Philadelphia, March 26.

The National Council Federation of American Scientists, which ended a two-day secret session here on Sunday, lauded the postponement of the Pacific Ocean atom-bomb test and stated that it is not unfortunate that the attention of the world is centered so dramatically on "our military preparations."

The test, the Council said, would have only purely military value, and added that scientists recognised that such bombings are not significant from the standpoint of development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Scientists, they said, believe that in the Atomic Age, no amount of military preparation could give any real security. If there is another war with atomic weapons, all the world would suffer irreparable losses, no matter who may be victor of the war.

The Council pointed out that the great experiment to which the leaders of the nation should devote their greatest attention and energy is that which is underway in the United Nations' Organisation.

"We need no further bombing tests to tell us that if this larger trial of world order fails the great U.N.O. experiment will end in most destructive explosions, the most destructive this world has ever seen," the Council declared emphatically.

The federation ended two days of secret session at the University of Philadelphia on Sunday. The federation claims the affiliation of 14 associations of wartime project scientists, including 90 per cent. of the men who helped to develop the atomic bomb.—Associated Press.

HESS TALKS OF A SECRET TREATY

NUERNBERG, MARCH 26.

RUDOLPH HESS AND JOACHIM VON RIBBENTROP YESTERDAY BASED THEIR DEFENSE AGAINST WAR CRIME CHARGES ON AN ATTEMPT TO EXPOSE THE SOVIET UNION AS NAZI GERMANY'S WILLING PARTNER IN A PLAN TO DIVIDE POLAND AND THE BALTIC STATES.

AN OBJECTION BY THE RUSSIAN PROSECUTOR, HOWEVER, PREVENTED COUNSEL FOR HESS FROM BRINGING INTO THE COURT RECORD EXCERPTS FROM WHAT HE CALLED A SECRET TREATY CONCLUDED BY GERMANY AND RUSSIA THREE DAYS BEFORE THE NAZI ATTACK ON POLAND.

The lawyer asserted before the International Military Tribunal that the alleged treaty contained spheres of influence in eastern Europe and that details were contained in an affidavit submitted by Dr. Friedrich Gaus, former German Ambassador to Moscow.

The Soviet prosecutor objected to the reading of the "surprise document" on the grounds that it sounded like hearsay to him as he was unaware of its existence.

Hess' lawyer countered with "In that case I must ask permission to call Foreign Commissar Molotov to establish if this agreement was not actually concluded."

Earlier, a document introduced by Hess' counsel claimed that the former deputy Fuehrer had warned the British Government a month after parachuting into Scotland that the Nazis planned to establish concentration camps and to starve the British population if an attempt was made to continue the war after the invasion of the British Isles.—Associated Press.

Sinister Body

The first witness at this afternoon's session of the War Crimes trial was Ernest Wilhelm Bohle, one of the three witnesses for Rudolf Hess.

Mr. Griffith Jones, assistant British prosecutor, uncovered the sinister background of Bohle's Ausland organisation in the course of cross-examination.

He surprised the witness with quotations from the organisation's year book for 1942, which Bohle said he had not read throughout. "Dangerous tasks were undertaken by members from the moment war began," the book stated. "The completion of secret work was revealed on April 9, 1941 (the invasion of Norway)," the book added. Bohle "could not define" the meaning of these passages.

Previously the witness had stated that the use of the term "fifth column" in connection with Russia was completely unjustified. He denied that when various countries of Europe were invaded the Ausland local organisations assisted the Germans in a military, or semi-military, capacity.

Bohle denied knowledge of a telegram from the Nazi Embassy in Madrid received in Berlin in October, 1939 concerning the installing of a "second secret radio." He knew that in wartime Germans in the interests of what they considered their patriotic duty sent information back to Germany, but he had protested often against members of his organisation being used for such purpose.

Contempt Of Court

After a long legal argument, following which the Tribunal went into a closed session to discuss the documents and decided to reject them, Doctor Seidl said that he had completed his defence of Hess whose "attitude towards the competence of this Court remains adamant."

Lord Justice Lawrence said the Tribunal would proceed with the defence for Herr von Ribbentropp, Hitler's former Foreign Minister.—Reuter.

Talks On Indo-China Open Well

Saigon, March 26.

Admiral Pierre Dargenlieu and Ho Chi Minh, Annamite leader, met for the first time to-day in what was described as "an atmosphere of complete cordiality."

Unofficially the conference is reported to have laid the ground work for the beginning of negotiations toward a final Franco-Viet Nam accord.

The preliminary accord left unsettled the status of French economic interests in the Viet Nam and whether, as a free state, Viet Nam can direct its own foreign relations.

The first major Franco-Viet Nam incident since the reoccupation of Tonkin was reported simultaneously with the conference. Press dispatches said the Viet Nam army on Sunday occupied the French-owned Hanoi waterworks, ousting the French staff and arming the native employees. The French immediately protested and the matter is under consideration.

Minor disorders were also reported from Cochin-China, Michel Peutin, who covered the Ho Chi Minh and Dargenlieu meeting as a representative of the combined press, reported that Ho Chi Minh was accorded full honours of a Chief of State. After the private conference a full French naval squadron passed in review before the Viet Nam President.

Meanwhile, the repatriation of 100,000 Japanese prisoners of war and internees from Indo-China is scheduled to begin immediately with the first 4,000 sailing from Saigon before the end of March. — Associated Press.

British Troops In Greece

Athens, March 26.

The Greek Prime Minister, Themitocles Sophoulis, said to-day that immediately after the elections on March 31, the Greek Government would ask Britain to keep the British forces in Greece "for reasons of internal strive."

The Prime Minister did not say whether the Government had accepted the British offer of British troops for the maintenance of order during the election themselves.

The statement was generally considered to mean that the present Greek Government (which is expected to remain in office after the newly elected parliament meets in May) wants to guard against possible outbreaks of trouble during the transitory period. — Reuter.

THE WEATHER

To-day's forecast: — Cloudy becoming fair, light easterly winds.

Yesterday's temperatures:—
Maximum: — 78.8 degrees at 4 p.m.
Minimum: — 66.2 degrees at 5 a.m.
Maximum humidity: — 92 per cent.
Sunshine: — 9 hours.

High Flying Made Him Sterile?

London, March 26.

An American soldier claims that he cannot be the father of his wife's child because high-altitude flying made him sterile.

The soldier, Gunner Duke Miller, is seeking to divorce his British wife on this ground.

The wife is indignant at the suggestion, and R.A.F. doctors are sceptical.

Miller wrote to his wife, Beryl, 22, of Ilford (Essex):—

"Although I have never told you, the Army found I was sterile, due to high altitude flying.

"Therefore the father of the child you have is, beyond doubt, Frank (Miller's friend).

"I married you knowing this, and I think you did, too.

"However, by the time you receive this I will have my final divorce decree.

"I love you, Beryl, and probably always shall, but under these conditions I don't want to see you again."

His wife says: "Of course Duke is the father. His claim is fantastic.

"I'd like some blood tests to be made."

A high-ranking R.A.F. medical authority said that of the thousands of air crews in the R.A.F., he had not known a single case of flying causing sterility.

CANADIAN SPY CASE

Montreal, March 26.

The Canadian Government introduced a document in court yesterday which purported to show that Fred Rose, Communist member of the Dominion Parliament, was assigned the task of recruiting Soviet agents in the United States.

After the document was submitted, the Court sentenced Gordon Lunan, who was arrested during the espionage inquiry for contempt of court in refusing to testify at the preliminary hearing of the Rose case in Police Court, to jail.

Lunan was a former Canadian Army captain who was accused of being associated with a group of agents which furnished wartime secrets to Russia. He was summoned on Monday as the Crown witness in Rose's preliminary Court appearance.

Another document admitted in evidence— purported to show that 16 days after the atom bomb hit Hiroshima—Russia, on August 22, 1945, directed Colonel Nicolai Zabotin, Soviet Military Attache in Ottawa to get full details of the atom bomb.

A telegram, identified by Igor Gouzenk, former Soviet Embassy code clerk, as having been sent from Intelligence Headquarters in Moscow to Zabotin, read "Take measures to organise the obtaining of documentary materials of atomic bombs' technological process, drawings and calculations".— Associated Press.

Stop Press

Rockets were seen being fired from or behind Lamma Island at 7 o'clock last night. H.M.S. "Hare", Fleet minesweeper, was sent to investigate, and at 11 p.m. reported that a thorough search of the area with the aid of her searchlight had not revealed anything. No further report had been received by 1 a.m. but "Hare" was still out. It is considered improbable, though not impossible, that this was connected with the crash of the R.A.F. 'plane on Lantau.

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Indian Crisis

There can be no misconception in the minds of the British Cabinet Mission now in India about the thorny nature of the task upon which they are about to enter. Success, in the face of the intensified hostility of the chief rival communities, seems to be virtually impossible of achievement. On the other hand, it is unquestionable that in any failure are the beginnings of a world tragedy. For it is idle to suggest that in the absence of a settlement with the political parties British rule can be resumed. The machinery of government in the country has been steadily deteriorating and the British proportion of the Services has dwindled to near uselessness to deal with the tremendous upheaval which seems certain to follow the failure of the mission to find a way out of the deadlock, and of that tremendous dilemma —how to give freedom to a nation of 400,000,000 people at war with itself, separate in cultures, religions and languages. Only one chance of success suggests itself, and even that seems remote. It lies in the fact that Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Sir Stafford Cripps and Mr. A. V. Alexander are in a position to speak with the authority of the Cabinet behind them. The offer they carry is full self-government with the right, if India so wills, to walk out of the British Commonwealth of Nations. Their task is to obtain, in a fractious India, the calm consideration of constitutional problems that will enable the transfer of power without a convulsion that will shatter India for half a century. They arrive at a time when the Moslem and Hindu communities are more resolute in their antagonistic policies than ever before. In the past, there always was a prospect of securing agreement on equality of representation in the Central Executive between the Moslems and the caste Hindus. That has been rejected by Mr. Jinnah and any such division of power will certainly now be scorned by the Congress Party, flushed with its electoral victories. Congress now demands that every vestige of British rule shall disappear, with or without an agreement. They have but one slogan "Quit India." And there are British people who would be prepared to accept this principle, and abandon India to her fate without conditions. There could, of course, be but one result —civil war. The Moslems have made it unmistakably clear that they would fight rather than submit to a Hindu Raj. Without disparagement of the fighting qualities of many of the Hindu races, no-one is under any misapprehension as to what that would mean. Hindus have responded with like threatenings, while the Pandit Nehru, deprecating recent riots, exhorted students to keep themselves in readiness for the conflicts for which the signal will come in due time unless the British clear from the country. Either way seems to promise disaster. We get out and communal hatred spreads into the bloodiest of civil wars; we stay, and we face a second Indian Mutiny. Unless an answer can be found to what appears to be an intractable problem—on what terms mutually satisfactory will the communities agree to work together for the good of India? Solution of this poser is the task set for the Mission. They enter upon it with the good wishes of civilised communities all over the world, but good wishes heavy with misgiving as to the prospects of success.

Have We Said Goodbye To All That?

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT
By
JOHN HOWARTH

Production for Prosperity! This Government campaign is a grand idea—if everybody knows what it means.

Soon we shall be talking about "the manpower budget" and "production per man hour." But phrases don't make a policy.

What you want to know is how the policy behind the phrases will affect your home, your larder and your standard of living.

And we start, because we must, with a crack at the cynicism of Dad and Mum.

They have good reasons for being cynical. They remember the golden promises made during the 1914 war. They responded once before to a More Production drive, to which respected Labour leaders as well as responsible industrialists gave their support. They recall that prices rose, profits rocketed and wages slumped.

In March, 1919, unemployment reached a million for the first time in history and did not fall below that figure until another war provided work and wages for all.

So Dad and Mum ask doubtingly: Have we really said goodbye to all that?

The answer is simple. Another slump can happen. But it need not happen.

You may think this is true because there is obviously work for everybody for years ahead—building houses, restoring exports, making furniture and clothing and footwear, and all the things of which most of us are now short.

You may think it is true because our manpower—about 20,000,000—is no larger than pre-war, yet we shall have, still 1,600,000 men and women in the Armed Forces or producing for the Armed Forces at the end of this year.

All this, however, is not the whole truth. Even in times of prosperity millions of people lacked many of the things that all of us want now and cannot get.

For example, before the war one in ten people were not getting enough food to keep them physically fit. The world was not then short of food.

The cause of mass poverty was that one in ten people was short of the power to purchase food.

So fruit and fish were being burned while babies starved.

This Government has decided, as a matter of policy, that the British people will not go short of purchasing power.

The Government is maintaining a reasonable level of wages, which are the chief source of your purchasing power or income.

It is subsidising some foodstuffs to the tune of £300,000,000 a year, thus closing the gap between what are called "economic prices" and your power to purchase these foodstuffs.

It is subsidising houses, thus preventing high rents from eating up income that should be spent on food.

It is ensuring that when a man or a woman ceases to earn wages because of unemployment or sickness or old age, he or she will not be deprived of adequate purchasing power; in other words, that the unfortunate and the aged will not cease to "demand" the products of the labour of other men and women, thus throwing them out of work, reducing their purchasing power, and causing mass unemployment.

All this is re-distributing the nation's income more fairly. It is guaranteeing a more stable market for the output of British enterprise and a fairer share of that production for every citizen.

It is ensuring that, as the national income increases, everybody will enjoy the increase.

But redistribution of purchasing power alone cannot increase the nation's income, except indirectly.

National income is not measured in wages and salary and insurance benefits. It is measured in goods. Real national income can be increased only in one way—by increasing the output of ships, and shoes and sealing wax, of cabbages and things.

So the meaning behind the Production for Prosperity campaign is quite clear. Unless you can exchange your wages for houses and furniture and food and a trip to the seaside, your purchasing power is ineffective. If there is lots of money and few goods and services, prices jump. Your money goes not in goods but in senselessly high profits.

This is inflation.

If monopolies, by fixing high prices, and restricting the output of goods, are able to drain away an unfair proportion of your purchasing power, their part of the market will remain stable and lucrative, but the whole market will become unstable. In time, the whole market will collapse.

This, too, is inflation.

Again, if work-people who are drawing reasonable wages and enjoying social security, nevertheless restrict output and refuse to do a fair day's work, they are forcing up the price of labour and are absorbing too large a part of the total purchasing power in relation to the goods they produce.

This aggravates inflation.

You want an example?

In 1920, a bricklayer was earning two and a half times the wages of 1913, but was laying only about one-third as many bricks. At the same time, building rings had got a tight grip on most of the materials that go to build a house, and had forced prices up to four, five and ten times the 1913 level.

Of course, many excuses were advanced—the labour army was tired after the exertions of war; the Government of that day, believing that the profit incentive would stimulate enterprise on a great scale, removed all controls on raw materials and prices; and so on. What we got was not enterprise on a great scale, but financial debauchery and a weakening of the real incentive that inspires men to united endeavour —the incentive of social purpose.

* * *

So building costs rose. Subsidies rose. Inflation ran loose. The pound in your pocket became worth less and less in terms of what it would buy. The whole nation fell into a ghastly slump.

We did not recover full sanity between the wars, although we did achieve some efficiency the hard way—through unemployment and misery.

The policy of the Government's Production for Prosperity campaign is to win industrial strength through social purpose.

You have got the point? The Government is underpinning the market. It is guaranteeing that you will be able to buy for the home what you produce in the factories—if you produce it in the factories. And the plain, blunt alternative to higher output? Not enough new houses, a falling standard of living, and an end to all hopes of social security. If, however, production per man hour can be raised to maximum, costs will fall. Money now spent on subsidies can be reduced or diverted to other purposes. When this old country rides through its immediate difficulties, there will be more of everything for everybody.

A final word. These ideas are not new. During the last forty years they have been hammered out by many famous economists concerned to find the cure for unemployment. They have been accepted by every political party in the State.

What is now and exciting is that the present Government is trying to put the ideas into practice. It is seeking to unite management, men and the public in a mighty partnership that can win victory over poverty.

WHY RUSSIA CANNOT FORGET

Nuremberg, Sunday.

The voice of the pale Russian Prosecutor, General Rudenko, ironed on and on. He was speaking about the murder of millions of men, women and children by the Nazis.

The Court yawned. The General's grim figures were so big that somehow they did not register in our brains. We were thankful when the Court rose and we fled to the Tribunal cafeteria to sip tea and talk sweet nothings.

Presently a little Russian captain entered.

We saw him pay 1s. 6d. for his snack and put down his tray. Suddenly he plunged his head into his hands and began to sob. "Oh, mother, sweet mother, dear father, why did they kill you? Why, why, why?"

We saw a raven-haired Russian girl interpreter go to him and gently stroke his hair. Then she too began to choke with grief. They had killed her parents and sister also.

Thirty Millions

Then, with understanding in our hearts, we went back to the Court.

The prosecution was recalling the evidence of the German General Bach-Selewsky, who heard Himmler tell a Conference it had decided to reduce the Slav race by thirty millions.

And they came very near to accomplishing it. Thirty million murders.

The territory of eighty million people laid waste of everything from its art palaces to its sewers. For no other reason than that it was Slav.

There you have the kernel of the Russian case as we have been hearing it.

There you have the reason why you will find in Russian hearts a hatred of European Fascism (pan-Germanism is merely counted as a big part of this canker) that will never die, and anguished feeling that none but a Slav will ever understand.

World In Chains

We say the Nazis planned world subjection to a master race. The Russian prosecution says the European Fascists planned a world without Slavs.

The evidence, much of it in documents found by British Tommies, is before the court in black and white.

Five days before Germany attacked Russia, Hitler told the German soldiers to plunder and exterminate, and promised that no man would be brought to trial.

Simultaneous with the attack, Hitler said: "I have surely the right to remove millions of an inferior race who multiply like flies."

He ordered in the first days of the attack, "Shoot anybody who simply casts an ugly look," and a few days later Keitel commanded: "Occupying forces must spread such terror as by its very existence will crush will to resist."

Then the Court heard about the order that the Geneva Convention should not apply to Soviet P.O.W.s, the demand of Hitler for a new technique of systematic depopulation, the command found in the papers of the 512 Regiment that all Russian occupied territory was to be turned into a desert, a reprimand to the German Army in October, 1941: "Supply of food to civilians and P.O.W.s is an unnecessary act of humanity."

Fuehrer's Will

Finally, the prosecution produced Sauckel's illuminating footnote to two orders demanding a million more strong, healthy Russian girls for Germany. "*It is the Fuehrer's will that in a hundred years' time 200 million German-speaking people shall live in Europe.*"

Three hundred such documents were produced by the Russians.

Then came the films.

We saw the biggest grave of all time, winding down a beautiful valley to the horizon, holding its 100,000 dead.

Then the screen was filled with naked women moving in droves to big and be shot in other mass graves, with their executioners grinning and posturing stupidly. The film actually showed them being shot. Sadism, say the Russians, made the Germans take and keep such pictures.

The camera pinpoints one area —Minsk. Judge Rusela from Minsk and the figures get astronomical. Some 800,000 civilians were murdered around Minsk.

Then in the camp in Lithuania where a special force killed mostly old women, crippled women and children.

Three miles out in the woods are giant shallow mounds. Here 46,000 people were buried in forty layers, with quicklime between each layer.

Six miles away, by the village of Stalag 352. Here 80,000 Russian prisoners of war had their skulls smashed in so that the Red Army would not retake them.

A few more miles to the Blagovshchina Forest, where 150,000 were slaughtered and burnt, their biggest bones crushed by a portable pounder and blown into the wind.

We saw the crusher. It bestowed human ash to a depth of seven yards in one wood.

"Hurry Mummie"

Then the Russians gave more documentary evidence, terrifying stories of thousands of women and children taken out to sea and drowned, children telling their mothers, "Hurry, Mummie, or we shall miss the car."

The car was the death van.

Then there were the death "games." I shall describe one.

Men and women were made to race down an avenue of guards, who tried to trip them. Any tripped could be shot. The guardsmen piled their bodies up to count their "scores."

Many terrible things must happen when a madman sets out to kill thirty million people. The Court projector flickered out more pictures. Of thousands of museums, hospitals, institutions of all kinds turned to shells. Of the finest cathedrals and palaces of occupied Russia gutted.

It took the Russians two whole days to tell of raindalism.

Here again mighty figures defeated their own purpose. I got the picture best when I saw a film of Tchaikovsky's original manuscripts on a rubbish heap.

I closed my eyes and tried to multiply such barbarism by a million.

The Germans sought to exterminate the Russians as one might exterminate vermin. The Russians were to realise this stark fact. Then we shall understand their [illegible]

Then we shall remember always why the [illegible] of men and women like [illegible] Captain [illegible] and [illegible] Soviet.

London Letter

A NEW IDEA IN PARTY POLITICS

By Michael Mason

That curious institution, the Boat Race, has begun to raise a certain amount of interest. It has always amazed us that your Londoner should get quite excited over the efforts of two boat crews from provincial universities about which he knows nothing except that they regard themselves way above his own university. But there it is. Before the war we have seen excited arguments among small boys in Bermondsey about the respective merits of the crews.

We somehow doubt whether there will ever be the same enthusiasm again, but all the same there has been a mention or two in the press that the crews could not get the beef steaks they used to get, that the Oxford crew was having to have another boat made even in these austerity days because they were too light to manage the 1939 boat.

We had a chat this week with Sir Harold Spencer Jones, the Astronomer Royal, on the subject of planetaria. Sir Alan Herbert has been trying to raise some interest in them and is, we understand, going to asked a question in the House about their absence from the amenities of London life. Troops in this war have probably had more opportunity of star gazing than they ever had before. In the old desert days a knowledge of the stars was not only a pleasure but useful as well. Sir Harold told us that the making of planetaria—a complicated job —was a monopoly held by the Zeiss works at Jena, now in Russian occupied Germany. He did not think there was much chance of us getting one over here in the near future unless we put it down on the reparations bill. They are so expensive to make and so few are sold that it is not worth the while of other firms to start up manufacture. All the same it is a pleasant thought that somewhere in London there might one day be a place where you could go and study the heavens—a prospect which the Londoner seldom enjoys.

Delegates from 17 European countries and the Middle East are in London now having a look at our radar. We found them this week, after a week's practical experience in the air, having a look at a radar film in the offices of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The film was portentously prefaced "This Film Is Secret." It was about something called "Eureka B.A." and was quite beyond us. But the delegates seemed to enjoy it. Some of them had already seen it twice before. Most of them were dressed in civilian suits and looked like ordinary business men or civil servants, as indeed most of them were. Only the Russian and Jugoslav delegates wore uniform. We had a talk after the film with Mr. S. L. Hof, the Netherlands' representative. He seemed delighted with all he had seen. He pointed out that most of the European countries which had been over-run were way behind the belligerents in the matter of radar but that some sort of international agreement had got to be reached about wavelengths before the Telecommunications Conference at the end of the year. So far the nations had got on amicably together.

One of Goering's Mercedes arrived at Thomas Tilling's garage this week. This five-ton bullet-proof monster is about to make a tour of the country on behalf of war charities. We were talking to the Ministry of War Transport about it. It was picked up by R.E.M.E. from a field park in Schleswig Holstein where it had been lying unnoticed among thousands of vehicles. It was noticed that it bore the Hamburg number plate whereas most of Goering's cars have a Berlin plate. It was thought that this car had been cannibalised to provide spares for Goering's other Mercedes but we were reminded that Goering's mother-in-law used to keep a little tobacconist shop near the Atlantic Hotel in Hamburg. It may have been a birthday present from son-in-law Hermann.

Conservatives searching about for a policy (and the Parliamentary Opposition has only just begun to warm up after a feeble start) have hit upon the idea of directly asking the people what they want. This is such a revolutionary idea in party politics where the parties have hitherto labelled their bottles "Mr. Brown's medicine is good for you. Take it," or "Mr. Black's medicine is better. Don't take Brown's," that it is worth more than the paragraph we have space for. The idea is that the electors should frame the policy of the party instead of having it imposed upon them by party chiefs, most of them apt to be out of touch with the humdrum life of the ordinary man. So far it has not gone far. It has taken the form of a pamphlet which gives the official party line, the bare facts of the particular question under discussion, and then leaves a few pages blank at the end for the elector to state his views. These views are then collected and central office, after analysing them, will frame policy accordingly. The sting of this story is in the tail. Will the central office frame policy accordingly? It remains to be seen.

We paid our first visit this week to the Whitechapel Art Gallery, where Madame Gusev, the Soviet Ambassador's wife, was opening an exhibition of Russian art. In talking to the director we were surprised to learn that this gallery is the best attended gallery in London after the National Gallery. Its record is 16,000 in one day. Its founder was Canon Barnett, vicar of St. Jude's, Whitechapel, who got Millais, Burne Jones, Watts and Rossetti to loan some of their pictures for an East End exhibition in his house. The response was so good that he decided to build a real gallery and the present building was opened by Lord Rosebery in 1901. It has been going strong ever since with four or five exhibitions a year. It is the only gallery which is entirely self-supporting.

There is a great boom in the theatre business. By which we mean not only that bad plays continue to play to packed houses, keeping better plays out, but that there had been a good deal of buying and selling in the theatre world. Both the Palace and the Saville have recently changed hands. Though we are but an infant in finance, we read this to mean that whereas certain gentlemen think they are selling on a peak market, others think the boom likely to continue. What should stop it except shortage of money or something better to spend it on? There seems little likelihood of either in the near future. In the meantime our number four dramatist (if an Irishman will allow the word *our*), has to have a new play presented in Hampstead because there is no room in the West End. Mr O'Casey (sticking our neck out we place him after Shaw, Maugham and Coward) has written a fine play. It would be hard for him to do otherwise though he had a good try, we thought, in "Within the Gates." "Red Roses For Me" is better than his last thought it does not touch that masterpiece "Juno and the Paycock." But here is the wit and tragedy of Ireland and if we have any complaint to make it is that the actors laid the Irish on so thick that we had difficulty in catching some of it. All [illegible] half-an-hour of this was worth an age of most of the present West End stuff. In fact when you have been in most of the West End theatres for half-an-hour it seems like an age. There are, of course, some gallant exceptions.

I Married The Doctor

I was a nurse. He was M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., but he didn't look like it.

We met at a hospital dance unintroduced. I learned later that the friend who had dragged him away from his books had asked him: "Who are you going to ask for the next dance?" and he said: "That girl over there in the shot-silk dress, and I'm going to marry her."

He reminded me of that dress the other day. One of the nicer things about being married to a doctor—to this doctor, at any rate—is that he is observant of the little things that matter, and remembers.

When that dance ended I had promised him my next free evening.

I learned a lot about him soon. He was a doctor not because he thought it a profitable career, but because he wanted to be a doctor and a very good one.

I had never intended to marry a doctor, but of course I did—six months or so after we met.

Before we were married we agreed we would not have any children for five years, but three months after our marriage I changed my mind. We had a housekeeper, my husband had his job, and after a busy hospital the place seemed like a morgue.

Six months later I changed his mind, too, after we had been to see Norma Shearer in "Smiling Through."

We have four children now, three girls and a boy—two years between each of them.

I never had any patience with the idea that a doctor's wife has a position to keep up. Before our children came, the doctor sometimes murmured: "Must you whistle in the street? For a doctor's wife, it's rather—"

But now the doctor considers convention so little that he hops out of his car in a suburban road with a bucket to collect a heap of something good for the garden.

And what can a wife say when, as she's sitting out for a rare evening with her husband, Mrs. So-and-So—whom she jolly well knows to be a malingerer—gets her maid to phone that she's "positively dying"? Or when she's expected to turn her husband out of bed in the middle of a nasty night, after he's had an exhausting day?

A doctor's day can be more exhausting than any he except his wife suspects.

A doctor, to be a good doctor, must keep his sensitivity to the pains of others, must keep his sympathy for their heartaches, worries, mental ills. He may be tired, but he must not admit it even to himself, till he is home.

THE HOLY TERROR

By
BARBARA BOARD

Overnight, the Mufti has become big news. His portrait, garlanded with flowers and bunting, decorates the Arab cafes. Although Government censorship bans his name from local newspapers, it is printed boldly in illegal Arabic pamphlets and chalked in large letters on street walls.

The Mufti has hit the headlines because the Arab leaders in Palestine, who have now joined together again in a re-formed Higher Committee, are demanding his return from exile.

Who is this man?

His name is Haj Amin El Husseini. During the first world war he was an officer in the Turkish Army.

When Allenby liberated Palestine, Haj Amin, as he is affectionately called by the Arabs, opposed the Balfour Declaration and led the Arabs in their agitation for independence.

In 1920 inflamed the Arabs in Jerusalem to riot, but was forced to fly to Transjordan for safety; and in his absence he was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment.

Then the office of Mufti—equivalent to Prime Minister of England and Archbishop of Canterbury combined—fell vacant. Britain, to appease the Moslem world, pardoned Haj Amin and he was brought back to be proclaimed his Eminence, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem.

Peasants came to regard him as a Holy Man; townspeople looked up to him as a wise and clever leader.

More Arab riots broke out in 1929 and 1933. But the bloodshed of those years was little compared with the countrywide Arab rising of 1936-1939.

The Mufti became front page news as the man behind "the disturbances," as they were officially called.

In the autumn of 1937 the situation had become so critical that Britain was compelled to declare the Arab Higher Committee—the Mufti's political Cabinet—an illegal body.

One by one its members were arrested and sent into exile. But the Mufti took sanctuary in the Mosque of Omar.

A military cordon was thrown around the old city of Jerusalem to prevent his escape.

But, disguised as a Moslem woman with a veil covering his bearded face, he fled through underground tunnels and was smuggled out of Palestine into Syria.

Officially his career had ended although the Arabs of Palestine still looked on him as their holy leader.

Not until 1939, when Britain published the White Paper which acceded to certain of the Arab demands, did Haj Amin issue orders for all resistance to cease.

Beirut remained his refuge till 1941. On the eve of the allied invasion of Syria, he fled to Bagdad, from there to Teheran, and finally to Italy and Germany where he remained for the rest of the war.

What Haj Amin did in Europe is now the subject of bitter controversy between Arabs and Jews. The Arabs declare that apart from a little anti-British propaganda over the Berlin radio the Mufti lived a quiet and peaceful life awaiting the outcome of the world struggle.

But the Jews say otherwise. The Jewish Resistance Movement, through its underground radio, "Voice of Israel," has accused the Mufti of being largely responsible for the mass murder of Europe's Jewish population.

From the [illegible] to Berlin [illegible] Government, [illegible] Amin El Husseini [illegible] Arab affairs in Palestine. Higher Committee have [illegible] to me that they are in regular contact with him.

STERN AMERICAN WARNING

No Taking Of The Law Into Own Hands

BRITAIN WANTS NAZI EXPERT

London, March 26.

British authorities have asked Professor Kurt von Waldemar Tank, who designed the Focke-Wulf fighter, to go to England to complete work on a jet-propelled commercial plane.

Tank said that just before the collapse of Germany he developed 600 m.p.h. fighters for the Luftwaffe—and an airliner on which he was now working, would have a speed of more than 600 m.p.h. —Associated Press.

Abortion "Mill" In America

San Francisco, March 26.

In an abortion "mill" allegedly run by the wife of a former State politician, police say they found surgical instruments, and 300,000 dollars (£100,000) in a safe.

Trial of Mrs. Inez Burns, wife of a former State Assemblyman, opened to-day.

The prosecution contends that Mrs. Burns conducted an "assembly line" abortion business.

The house she occupied, alleged to have been an abortion centre, was raided several weeks ago by police.

Reverberations of the case have shaken political circles, and have already resulted in the statement that San Francisco's abortion rate was higher than the birth-rate.—Associated Press.

Mr. Byrnes On Use Of Force

NEW YORK, MARCH 26.

A STERN WARNING ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES THAT NATIONS MUST NOT TAKE THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS AND LEAVE QUESTIONS OF HONOUR TO THE ORDEAL OF BATTLE, WAS GIVEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, MR. JAMES BYRNES, WHEN HE WELCOMED THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION TO THE UNITED STATES LAST NIGHT.

MR. BYRNES BEGAN BY RECALLING THAT LESS THAN 160 YEARS AGO 13 STATES BECAME THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—AN UNTRIED EXPERIMENT THAT MANY DOUBTED COULD LONG ENDURE. THE UNION SURVIVED IN SPITE OF THE "DARK DAYS OF TRIAL." HE HOPED THE UNITED NATIONS ALSO WOULD GROW STRONGER AND SURVIVE EVERY CRISIS.

The Charter of the new organisation did not sanctify ancient privilege nor attempt to outlaw change in a changing world. "It does, however," added Mr. Byrnes, "oblige all nations, large and small alike to refrain from the use of force or threat of force except in the defence of law.

"Nations, like individuals, should do their best to adjust their disputes without resort to litigation. But no nation has the right to take the law into its own hands. If disputes cannot be settled by friendly negotiations, they must be brought before the Security Council. That is why the Security Council must at all times be prepared to act promptly. That is why the Security Council must be prepared to function continuously.

"If the United Nations is to endure there must be no cause or need for any nation to take the law into its own hands.

Upon the Security Council rests the gravest responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security. It must of necessity deal with problems about which nations in the past have been prepared to fight.

Road To Peace

"Questions affecting the peace of the world must not be treated as questions of honour which cannot be discussed. Questions of honour among individuals are no longer left to the ordeal of a duel. Questions of honour among nations cannot be left to the ordeal of battle."

Mr. Byrnes described the Charter as the "road to peace," observing: "The road to peace is the road the peoples of the world want to travel. We are here to carry out their mandate. We must not let them down."

Mr. Byrnes also read a message from President Truman, welcoming the U.N.O. to the United States.

The President's message said that there can be no home anywhere for the United Nations unless the United Nations remain united and continue to work together as they had fought together for peace and freedom.

In his message President Truman declared that the United States was "greatly honoured that the United Nations have chosen the site in our country for its home."

"We will do our best to make you feel at home but there can be no home anywhere for the United Nations unless the United Nations remain united and continued to work together as they have fought together for peace and freedom. The people of the United States not only wish you success but they pledge to you their wholehearted co-operation to give to the United Nations the strength and will to maintained peace and freedom in this independent world."

Important Moment

After reading the President's message, Mr. Byrnes then said: "This is a moment of great importance in the history of the world. With this meeting, of the Security Council, as required by its Charter, begins function continuously. For this purpose members of the Council are obligated to be represented at all times at the seat of the organisation. This is essential because it is the function of the Council to guard at all times the peace of the world."

Recalling the history of the creation of the United States, 160 years ago Mr. Byrnes said: "That was then an untried experiment and many doubted whether such a union of the states could long endure.

"The union survived its dark days of trial."

BODY IN HOUSE FOR TWO YEARS

London, March 26.

The embalmed body of John Abel Ingpen, who died 2½ years ago, aged 84, still lies in a room at his widow's home at Burnham (Buckinghamshire).

The war and lack of materials have so far prevented the widow from carrying out his wish to be buried in the grounds of their home, where a tomb will be erected for both of them.

SEARCH FOR LANCASTRIAN

Sydney, March 26.

Private and Service aircraft, including Catalinas and Lancastrians, have to-day been sweeping thousands of miles of the Indian Ocean in search of the Lancastrian all-liner missing since Saturday on a flight from Britain to Australia.

An official communique to-day stated that it was "almost certain that the missing Lancastrian came down in the sea north of the Cocos Islands and a report from Perth (Western Australia) suggests that the passengers and crew may have taken to their rubber dinghies."

This report says radio signals similar to those by Lancastrian radio and believed to have emanated from the area between Ceylon and the Cocos Islands were picked up yesterday by a Royal Australian Air Force operation searching before dusk.

It is thought that the messages, which was very weak, might have originated from the transmitter of a dinghy. It was impossible to fix the point of despatch, and fading light forced the Liberator aircraft to return.—Reuter.

London, March 26.

Brigadier-General Bedell Smith, new United States Ambassador to Moscow, arrived at Orly airport this afternoon from Washington on his way to Moscow.—Reuter.

Five Times "Dead" Now Home

London, March 26.

Although officially informed five times in the last four years that her soldier husband was missing and must be presumed dead, Mrs. Tom Williams, of Princess-street, Ystrad, South Wales, refused to believe it.

Her faith has been justified, because the day after she received the last notice her husband, Bombardier Tom Williams, walked in after spending 3½ years in a Japanese prison camp.

Captured in Java in 1942, Bdr. Williams was injured in a train smash.

On the day of the crash Mrs. Williams told neighbours she had heard her husband calling to her.

"There must be some sort of telepathy between us," she said. "Every time anything has happened to Tom I've known."

Officially, Bdr. Williams has been missing since his ship put in at Capetown, en route to Singapore. But when a War Office official called at the house to express sympathy, Mrs. Williams showed him a cable from her husband received a few days before.

Mrs. Williams is certain her husband will return, but she refused to apply for a widow's pension.

BRITISH CLEARING OPERATION

Batavia, March 26.

Following the British Military Authorities' ultimatum to the Indonesian extremists in southern Bandoeng to leave or lay down their arms, British troops, in their clearing operation, had almost completed the encirclement of the southern part of Bandoeng this afternoon without firing a shot, a spokesman at Allied Headquarters stated.

He added that Indonesian extremists had desperately attempted to destroy the southern part of Bandoeng by fire.

Indonesian forces pulled out of Bandoeng before mid-day to-day, the Netherlands News Agency reported.—Reuter.

NAAFI PRESENTS

ENSA ENTERTAINMENTS FOR H.M. FORCES

AT

ENSA STAR THEATRE

"CHINESE CRACKERS"

NIGHTLY AT 7.30 P.M.

KELLY'S DIRECTORY OF MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS AND SHIPPERS.

The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce has undertaken to revise the Hong Kong Section of this Directory for 1946, to be published in August next.

Banks, Shipping & Insurance Companies, Merchants, Manufacturers and other commercial concerns are therefore invited to communicate to the Secretary of the Chamber in writing (not by 'phone):—

Name of Company
Address
Telephone Number

and, in the case of merchants, manufacturers and others, an indication of the heading, or headings, under which it is desired to be classified.

The Hong Kong Section of the Directory has been suspended since 1941 and the present is a useful opportunity of bringing it up-to-date in the general interest.

Prompt action is requested as the material must be posted to London early in April.

HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

M. F. KEY
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 22nd March, 1946.

TRAVELLERS CHEQUES

Travellers Cheques can once again be issued in the following denominations:—

U.S. Dollars	$10	$20	$50	$100
Sterling	£2	£5	£10	

Insure your travel funds by carrying

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"Night Out" Rule Raises Wife's Ire

New York, March 26.

Mrs. Florence de Wilde, of Chicago, did not like the decision of municipal judge, John Niblack, of Indianapolis, that every husband is entitled to one night out each week.

She wrote to him: "There's been quite a bit of pro and con between my husband and myself on that very question. He showed me your decision and thinks he's won a point.

"If you think he should get a night out, will you please tell me when I get a night out?

"Please tell me what you think (if you think).

"If you're against me, I think you're an old-fashioned tyrant who considers a woman only a household cadaver."

Judge Niblack read the letter and commented: "I still believe what I said. I've even taken a night out once a week myself."

Mrs. de Wilde (29), and attractive nurse-mother of six-year-old twins, was disappointed. Her husband, John (32), a three-battle star Army veteran, was surprised and pleased.

He said: "That settles it. I'll start on it next Thursday is my night out."

Mrs. de Wilde replied: "If you do, you'll find me before he's starting."

NO MOSCOW VISIT NOW -- ATTLEE

London, March 26.

Mr. Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, replying to a suggestion in the House of Commons to-day that he should visit Moscow, said: "I am ready to adopt any means likely to improve relations between great powers. However since the Security Council of the United Nations is now holding a meeting in New York, I do not consider it would be advisable for me to make such a proposal of such far-reaching importance as Marshal Stalin at the present time."

This suggestion was made by Vernon Bartlett, well-known journalist and independent member of Parliament, who asked if Mr. Attlee would consider the advisability of paying a visit to Moscow so that by frank talks with Marshal Stalin, he might discover how and to what extent the Soviet occupations with the Security Council could be reconciled with Britain's.

The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hector McNeil, announced that the Foreign Secretary had agreed to make arrangements for a small party of British Members of Parliament to visit Persia.

Mr. McNeil added that the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, regrets the present campaign against Britain by the Soviet press and radio. "It is difficult to reconcile the tone and intentions of the Soviet propaganda, with the spirit of the Anglo-Soviet treaty of alliance, war collaboration and mutual assistance of 1942."—Reuter.

NEW RA... FORESH...

Lon...

Tentative ... cute in Britain's ... made by Sir Ben ... Minister of Food. The next move lies with the Cabinet Food Committee, which will ... report in detail.

Whether a du... be made rests with the ... which will be able to ... what should be done once ... position of ... wheat for ...

If ... city ... nutri...

LOVE NOTES TO GET PASSPORTS

London, March 26.

French, Belgian and Dutch girls can now put love-letters to obtain passports to ...

Hundreds ... men want to ... have matrimonial ... are demobilised to Britain, they cannot arrive within nine months. ... arranged with ... and passport centres ... and Continent ... that the girls travel on their ... tions.

They must produce letters containing ... proofs of marriage.

They must marry within two months of their arrival in Britain.

Austrian and German ... are not included in the ...

Jap Flag Hauled Down After Girl's Protest

Sydney, March ...

The Japanese flag which the Dutch Mave was flying when she entered Sydney Harbour was hauled down yesterday.

This followed telegrams of pro... to the Prime Minister (Mr. ... for consideration of Commonwealth ... [illegible] ... [illegible] ... [illegible]

Bandits Active In Toishan Area

Travellers arriving in Hong Kong from the Toishan District say that bandit gangs are preying on residents of the region on a large scale.

No village is too large or well armed, nor too small, for the bandits to tackle and they operate both by day and night.

According to these travellers, the bandits are in groups of between 400 and 500 men, all of whom are well armed with rifles and short arms.

Argument is waxing hot as to the true identity of these bandits, while the general opinion stamps them as being remnants of the "soldiers" of the guerrilla type that were responsible for the one day liberation of Toishan City, after that city fell to the Japanese in 1945.

Between wondering where the next meal is coming from and the fear that these bandits will take even what little they have, the people in Toishan are having a hectic time.

High Prices

Rice has risen again to an all-time high there. Formerly, rice was always cheaper in this district than anywhere else in Kwangtung, owing to the rich, cultivated fields, but now the prices of foodstuffs, including rice, equal and even surpass the prices in Canton City itself.

Rice, unhusked, is selling for between $24,000 per picul to $38,000, which means that a catty of rice costs about $480 per catty and even higher. Pork is selling for $900 per catty, beef at $750 and fish at $500 to $600 per catty.

Salt, one of the most important of the Toishan exports, is selling at an exchange rate of one picul of grain for ten piculs of salt. Salt plants, manufacturing salt either by the cooking method or by the evaporation method, have closed down rather than continue a losing business. From all accounts of conditions, salt will soon be one of the scarcest of items in Toishan.

COOKED FOOD STALLS

Cooked food stalls, which now meet the eye all over the Colony will disappear after April 1 unless the Health Authorities change their minds and allow them to carry on.

Stall-holders have petitioned the authorities to be allowed to continue in business for economic reasons, pointing out that so many people depend on them for a living and they provided cheaper food for the poorer section of the population.

Most of the stalls came into existence after the re-occupation, and they have been doing a roaring business, with people spending all the money they can afford in eating after nearly four years of enforced dieting.

It is estimated that the number of these stalls is something like six times the pre-war total; and refusal of the authorities to give them a longer lease of life will mean, besides deprivating their owners of their present means of earning a livelihood, also a loss of a few hundred dollars for cost of the stalls and equipment.

New Australian Destroyers

Canberra, Mar. 26.

The Commonwealth Cabinet has approved in principle the plans to build four new destroyers, Joseph B. Chifley, the Australian Premier announced to-day.

The Cabinet has also approved in principle the allocation of £150,000 Australian for the modification and improvement of shipyards.

The decision was subject to a general question of Naval construction which would be further examined and modified.

Chifley also announced that the Cabinet had approved a draft for submission to the United States Government for a reciprocal transport agreement providing for commercial entry and departure of aircraft between Australia and the United States (including aircraft of any of the members of the British Commonwealth).—Reuter.

NEHRU SHOCKED BY MALAYA

Penang, Mar. 26.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru left Penang and Malaya by Dakota aircraft at noon to-day for Calcutta via Rangoon.

In a farewell message, Nehru announced the formation of an Indian Relief Committee in Malaya, with himself as Chairman, from funds received by him in the shape of purses presented during his week's tour of Malaya. Everywhere in Malaya, Nehru said, he had found a new spirit of self-denial, even though that spirit was "clad in rags".

Earlier, Nehru had told the Penang General Labour Union that he was "shocked by workers' conditions in Malaya".

Nehru proposed that the Relief Committee should look after Indian workers and former Indian "National Army" personnel.—Reuter.

600 Pilots, Three 'Planes

Paris, Mar. 26.

The satirical French periodical, Le Canard Enchaine (The Shackled Duck) was threatened with suppression, because—

It published this list of fantasies in the French zone of occupied Germany:

At least half the security officers sent to Germany couldn't speak a word of German.

At one airfield there were three aircraft (only one in flying order), though 600 trained pilots were available.

Two hundred and fifty skilled railwaymen were stationed at an isolated spot, three miles from the nearest rail station.

French troops in the Palatinate drank vin ordinaire imported from France; the wine waggons reloaded with Palatinate wine for transport to France.

Le Canard Enchaine also gave a list of pro-Vichy officials in positions of authority in the occupied zone:

The director-general of administrative affairs in the zone was former Vichy Police Prefect Sabattier; the director of economic affairs was former Vichy big-shot Filippi; General Dentz, former Vichy Syrian G.O.C., commanded all French communications in the occupied zone.

Organised Gambling Ships

London, Mar. 26.

Gambling ships outside the three-mile limit, houseboat clubs on the Thames, smuggling wines and currency from the Continent. These are some of the many dubious projects that are being dangled in front of ex-servicemen, wondering how to invest their gratuity.

This phase of the crime-wave has developed to a substantial extent recently, but little is heard of it because not until naval war-time controls cease can most of the plans be put into operation. In several cases preliminary moves have already been made.

Quick Action

The most ambitious plan heard of so far provides for a vessel capable of accommodating about 500 people. There will be several bars and a separate section for gambling.

Houseboat clubs to be moored in the Thames are a good second favourite. It has been asked if any of the Admiralty surplus vessels would be suitable for such a purpose.

These clubs are likely to have a very short life.

FALSE REPORT TO POLICE

A young Chinese woman, Yeung Lai-yung, was charged before Mr. A. el Arculli at the Summary Military Court yesterday with giving a false report to the Police at Wanchai Police Station.

According to Inspector Mischenko, accused came to No. 2 Police Station at about noon on March 19, and made a report that she had been the victim of an highway robbery at Hennessy Road. She was robbed of her wrist watch and a gold ring by a Chinese male who approached her from behind.

Enquiries were made and on information received, a man named Lo Siu-man was arrested together with another woman, who were found in possession of the wrist watch at No. 474, Lockhart Road.

The man Lo said that the watch belonged to him. He had given it to accused, his legal wife. He took the watch from her during a quarrel at Hennessy Road, and gave it to the other woman.

Accused admitted that the man Lo was her husband.

A fine of $50 or two weeks' simple imprisonment was imposed.

Profiteer

For selling condensed milk at $1.80 per tin Lai Chick-sam was charged before Mr. A. el Arculli at the Summary Military Court yesterday.

Accused was also charged with failing to affix a price on the milk at No. 231, Kam Wah Street, Shaukiwan.

Chinese Sub-Inspector Fong said that he visited the accused's shop and found that there were 22 tins of condensed milk in the show-window. He bought a tin and was charged $1.80. He then cautioned the accused and brought him to Police Station.

A total fine of $500 or four months' hard labour was imposed.

Money Mart

Chinese national currency was very strong in the market yesterday, and buyers predominated throughout the day.

Futures opened at HK$2.25 to CN$1,000 and closed at $2.31. Spot rose from $2.32 to $2.37.

Gold was steady, and from the opening rate of $388 per tael closed at $393.

U.S. dollars had buyers at $4.36. English Sterling firmed up to $16.70, and Australian pounds were unchanged at $12.50.

Detective Charged With Extortion

Chinese detective C 825, Chan Ling, was charged before Mr. Horace Lo at the Summary Military Court yesterday afternoon with extortion of $20 and a tin of Lactogen milk powder from Wong Tak-fan, at Johnston Road, on March 6.

Mr. M. A. da Silva pleaded not guilty on behalf of the accused, while Detective Inspector Ewins of No. 2 Police Station, prosecuted. Wong Tak-fan, in evidence said that he was a clerk of the Medical Department, residing at No. 10, Mallory Street, second floor. At about 8.40 p.m. on March 6, he was walking with his son along Johnston Road near the old site of the Fire Brigade Station, carrying a basket containing seven tins of Lactogen milk powder.

Two Chinese dressed in Chinese clothing approached him and said that they were Police detectives. They asked what he was carrying in the basket. He opened the basket and showed them the contents. Accused asked him where he obtained the milk powder. He told the accused he had bought it through the office, and was asked to show the receipt. When he failed to produce the receipt, accused threatened to arrest him for having stolen property. Unless he give him $100 he would be taken to the Police Station. He told accused he had no money in his possession, and accused told him to obtain the money from friends or relatives.

Identification Parade

He then proceeded along Johnston Road to Thomson Road together with the accused and the other man. When near No. 101, Thomson Road, he went upstairs to borrow money from a friend. When he came down, the accused asked him how much he had got from his friend, and he told the accused that he had $20. As he gave the accused $20, accused took a tin of Lactogen from his basket, and said that the money was too little.

After the accused and the man had left, he went to No. 2 Police Station and made a report.

At an identification parade held at No. 2 Police Station the same evening, he could not identify the men.

At another identification parade held at Central Police Station on March 10 he identified the accused as one of the men.

After further evidence the case was adjourned.

CAT WITH FALSE TEETH

Chicago's famous cat, "Shaggy," the only cat in the world with false teeth, is dead.

"Shaggy" was cremated in a Chicago crematorium.

Dan Wilkinson, 68, a court clerk, found "Shaggy" three years ago in an alley with her teeth kicked out.

He had a set of teeth made for £25.

He also took out two £150 insurance policies on his own life and made "Shaggy" the beneficiary so she would not be neglected should he die first.

Interviewed in a bar where he and his friends were drinking a toast to "Shaggy," Wilkinson said: "The house seems empty since 'Shaggy' died.

"I have her ashes in the dresser drawer, but they don't seem to help much.

"What's left of her teeth are there, too, but they melted when Shaggy was cremated."

Wilkinson intends to cash the insurance policies to pay for an elaborate memorial urn for "Shaggy's" ashes.

Pleading guilty to a charge of buying rice from a Government rice depot with a ticket which did not belong to her, Li Choi was fined $100 by Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday. The 28 catties of rice which she bought from the shop were ordered to be confiscated to the Rice Control. Inspector Wheeler was in charge of the prosecution.

A pick-pocket, Wong Shing, was sentenced to three months' hard labour by Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday. Inspector Andrews told the Court that on the morning of Mar. 25, a detective on duty at the Mongkok Ferry Wharf saw the accused take three $5 notes out of the pocket of complainant, Leung Fat. Accused pleaded guilty. The money was ordered to be returned to the complainant.

VICE-CONSUL A "MISS"

A new addition to the staff of the American Consulate-General in Hong Kong is Miss Betty Ann Middleton, who is to assume the duties of Vice-Consul. Miss Middleton arrived here from the United States by plane via Shanghai on Monday.

It will be Miss Middleton's second post abroad in the Foreign Service of the United States and her first as Vice-Consul. Her previous post was at Ottawa, where she was stationed from October, 1945, to January this year.

Miss Middleton comes from Redlands, California, and is a graduate of Pomona College, of Claremont, California, of the Class of '42. She also attended the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Boston, Mass.

Film Reviews

"Fanny By Gaslight"

This is a film which just misses being good. Although it has Phyllis Calvert, Stwart Granger and James Mason as the principal stars, it is rather spoiled by a lack of cohesion in the plot, the story does not hang together well and meanders along at a somewhat slow pace. This is a common fault in British films, although some British directors, notably Alfred Hitchcock ("The Lady Vanishes"), have a well developed ability for making motion pictures that really move.

Phyllis Calvert, who plays the part of Fanny, has gradually risen during the war years to the front rank, and together with Patricia Roc (seen here in "Millions Like Us") and Margaret Lockwood can be relied upon to turn up in any of the better British films made since 1940. And moreover, give a good performance. In "Fanny by Gaslight" she plays the rather difficult part of a girl whose life is continuously marred by the evil attentions of the villainous Lord Manderstoke (James Mason); she successfully avoids the rather wooden-faced appearance so common in English film-stars and really makes Fanny live.

Mention must be made of a really delightful old character, Chunks, played by Wilfred Lawson, who looks a good deal more at ease behind the bar of the "Jolly Bargee" than does Stewart Granger in front of it! The period settings of this film are excellent and if you are looking for entertainment which, whilst it does not exactly rush you off your feet, is well acted and has some good dramatic situations, this is the film for you. It can be seen at the King's.

'Sunday Dinner For A Soldier.'

In America the making of films is looked upon as an industry and not an art, studios become factories for the productions of films. Under such a system there is apt to be a loss of that mysterious quality which so few films have, called sincerity.

"Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" is different however, it's not about anything or anybody specially important, it's just a little snippet from the pattern of life, and as such it's perfect film material. Anne Baxter as Tessa, is really delightful, so are all the other members of the cast for that matter. Altogther the is'nt a thing out of place in the whole of the film. Now at the Queen's.

G. W. ASHTON.

TOC H CONCERT

"Continuing the popular variety concerts on records at the Toc H Services Club, St. Andrews, Nathan Road, Miss Joan Beer will present at 8 p.m. this evening a number of items including, Webster Booth & Anne Zeigler, Caruso, Dvoraks' Humoreske, Caruso, Gigli, The Ink-spots, Artie Shaw, Glen Miller, Arthur Askey, and new dance records just received from England.

Armed Robber Gets 8 Years And Caning

A SHOOTING AFFRAY BETWEEN A PARTY OF R.A.F. AND POLICE AND A GANG OF WOULD-BE ARMED ROBBERS ON CHINESE NEW YEAR'S EVE (FEB. 1 LAST) HAD A SEQUEL AT THE GENERAL MILITARY COURT YESTERDAY WHEN ONE OF THE ROBBERS, WHO WAS WOUNDED BY THE POLICE, WAS SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS HARD LABOUR AND 12 STROKES OF THE CANE.

Yip Mau-lam was found guilty by the Court, comprising Mr. Leo d'Almada (President), Major J. B. Kite and Capt. I. M. Lightbody, of shooting with intent to maim, disfigure or disable Det.-Chief-Inspector N. B. Fraser, L/S. Ho Ping, PCs. Hung Hong-cheung, Yick Kwan, Chan Ning, Li Hip and LAC. Nolan, Leslie, Brough and Scot at Sai Yeung Choi Street, on Feb. 1.

On two other charges of conspiring to commit an armed robbery at No. 320, Sai Yeung Choi Street, second floor, and unlawful possession of arms and ammunition, Yip was given prison terms of six and five years, respectively.

Leung Chi, charged together with Yip, was sentenced to six years' hard labour on the conspiracy count and five years for unlawful possession of arms and ammunition. The prison sentences were to run concurrently.

A third defendant, Hong Man, was discharged at the conclusion of the prosecution's case, the Court holding that there was insufficient evidence to support the charge of conspiracy against him.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada, assisted by Det.-Chief-Inspector N. B. Fraser, conducted the prosecution.

Informed Police

Poon Kwan-pui told the Court how he was taken into the conspiracy to rob No. 320, Sai Yeung Choi Street by Lam Cheong, not in custody. The second and third accused, who possessed revolvers, agreed with Lam to commit the robbery. The witness said that his part was to gain admittance for the robbers.

Witness with the second, third accused and another man, Lam Chai, went to No. 320, Sai Yeung Choi Street. Witness said he failed to make the people open the door on this occasion.

After this failure he decided to inform the police, and was given certain instructions by Det.-Insp. Fraser.

On Feb. 1 went back to Sai Yeung Choi Street, again accompanied by the accused. He met his brother and had an argument. He was entering the doorway of No. 320 when he heard the report of a gun. He came out to the street where he saw Leung Chi lying on the ground.

Det.-Insp. Fraser testified that on receiving information from Poon he organised a party comprising of four members of the R.A.F. regiment and several Chinese detectives. They went to Sai Yeung Choi Street and the men took up positions in doorways opposite No. 320.

Fired Four Shots

When he saw Poon in argument with another Chinese male he sent L/S. Ho Ping across the street. As Ho was recrossing the street witness saw the detective going up to three Chinese males. The detective caught hold of one while the others ran away.

Insp. Fraser said he then crossed the street to Ho's aid. As he was crossing the street one of the men who was running away, put his hand to his girdle. Witness, who had previously been warned, drew his revolver and fired two shots. As the man continued to run he fired another two shots in quick succession. He saw the man stumble and fell to the ground.

Witness said he went up to the man and saw the robber attempting to reach something. He jumped on him and pinned him down. On the ground nearby witness noticed a revolver.

In the meanwhile, said Insp. Fraser, there was a good deal of firing from revolvers and Sten guns. After the firing had subsided witness found that Ho Ping had taken first defendant, Hon Man, into custody.

Suicide Wish

Ho Ping testified to the arrest of third defendant, Yip Mau-lam, at the Nam Lo Hostel, Castle Peak. He found the defendant in bed wounded in the leg.

PCC. 530 Wan Choi gave evidence of seeing a robber, dressed in grey, pointing a gun at the police party and a flash from his gun.

After a short retirement the Court discharged Hong Man on the ground of insufficient evidence.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada told the Court that the second defendant Leung Chi, was serving a prison term of three months for attempting to escape from the Kwong Wah Hospital where he was detained. The defendant stated then that he wanted to commit suicide.

Readers' Letters

Officer And Gentleman

Sir,—The old phrase "an officer and a gentleman" seems to be out of date these days. During the past week I have seen a British officer shoulder a Chinese off the pavement and then curse him for not giving way to him; another British officer pull back a Chinese who was entering the lift before him and say "You should let me in first" and yet another British officer cuffing a Chinese who was slow in shifting some luggage for him. The comments of other Chinese who witnessed these scenes would have been most enlightening to the officers concerned had they understood them.

COURTESY.

* * *

Who Won The War?

Sir,—I regret that owing to indisposition I was unable to reply earlier to the various correspondents who answered my letter of the 15th inst. regarding British war efforts.

I have nothing much to say to "Pax Brittanica" whose letter I do not wish to criticise. But as regards "Tory," I can only say that he was being downright sarcastic when he so cutely said that I would not have heard of the 8th Army. I purposely omitted all reference to the 8th Army, because I was referring to the number of armies contributed by Britain and the U.S. respectively to the second front, by which is generally meant the front under that great American General Eisenhower, not the Italian front. In that case, has "Tory" forgotten the U.S. 5th Army under Mark Clark?

Granted that U.S. manpower in proportion to Britain's was only 2:1 as pointed out to me, that by no means represented the ratio in fighting power. Modern wars are not fought with manpower alone. The unlimited industrial might of the U.S. was at Britain's disposal, being an ally of Uncle Sam. Mr. Churchill's own words spoken in 1940 in Britain's darkest hour have come true when he said that "In God's own good time the New World with all its might and power, sets forth to the rescue and liberation of the Old." Once again has Uncle Sam pulled the chestnut out of the fire for Britain.

Now if British war weapons are of such par excellence as insinuated by D. V. Hunter, when he compared the Mosquito with the Flying Fortress, why did Britain use such a lot of U.S. arms? The R.A.F. was using such planes as the Liberator, Tomahawk, Kittyhawk, Catalina, Lockheed Hudson etc. Her Fleet Air Arm used American Corsairs and many of the escort carriers in service in the R.N. are Lend-Lease materials. Also when British tanks proved themselves inferior to the German Tiger tanks in Africa the situation was only redressed when American Grants and Shermans were used. Mr. Hunter asked me if I remembered the Kasserine Pass. I most certainly do but does Mr. Hunter remember Knightsbridge? Also he was talking childishly when he thought he taunted me by saying that I might have done 90 per cent of the talking but not 90 per cent of the fighting. Of course I did not. How could any one man do 90 per cent of the fighting? But perhaps Mr. Hunter did!

For "We'll Get By" I have this to tell him. I don't care two boots what people like him think of the Yanks as I am not one, much to his surprise. I am merely a neutral observer who is neither pro nor anti British, but one who only took it upon himself to give credit where credit is due. In this case to Uncle Sam. [illegible] will be the fitting [illegible] time like this, when the [illegible] of peace the [illegible] two [illegible] Mason, he [illegible] respectfully [illegible] this non-[illegible]

PAX ANGLIA.

Food and Fuel Costs

The average of the Food and Fuel figures for the four weeks ending March 23 is $10.1492. The rehabilitation allowance for April will therefore be one unit above the standard based on the Food and Fuel figure of $9.00.

The following are the costs for the last week with comparisons:—

Commodities	Catties	Week ending 16.3.46	Week ending 23.3.46
Rice	7.2	1.440	1.440
Vegetables	1.5	.960	.855
Salt Cabbage	.2	.118	.110
Oil	.7	1.981	[illegible]
Tea	.2	.960	.960
Salt Fish	.3	.777	.645
Fish	.4	.872	.624
Pork	.3	1.165	1.023
Firewood	10.0	1.500	1.200
Bean Curd	14 pieces	.700	.700
	Total	$ 10.453	$ 9.244

BUDDHIST NUN IN LOCAL COURT

A Buddhist nun, five widows and two men were summoned before Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday for the unlawful possession of raw opium. Prosecution was conducted by Chief Revenue Officer Phillips and Inspector Roberts.

A widow, Wong Fuk, was searched at the K.C.R. Station on Mar. 22 and 10 taels of raw opium were found in four tins she was carrying.

Wong told the Revenue officials that the opium was the property of a Buddhist nun, Chan Ping. Chan pleaded guilty to the charge. A fine of $800 was imposed on each accused. Wong Fuk could have the option of going into prison for three months. Chan was given three months with hard labour.

Tse Man, found with 10 taels tied round his waist, was sentenced to six months' hard labour [illegible] or six weeks' [illegible] on Thursday [illegible] police at [illegible] Tse Man [illegible] six taels of raw opium hidden between her legs, was fined $600 or two months' imprisonment.

Two widows, each found guilty of possessing three taels, were fined $300 or six weeks' imprisonment.

Another woman, Chu Kam Kui, pleaded guilty to a charge of possession of one tael and was fined $100 or three weeks.

Arrested with two taels of opium tied round his calf, Lau Tse was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment or a fine of $200.

For allowing his two Chow dogs to go without muzzles along Canton Road near Pitt Street on Mar. 20, Ip Pink was summoned before Mr. W. H. Latimer yesterday. This was Ip's second offence within ten days. A fine of $20 was imposed. Inspector Wheeler prosecuted.

Shanghai Business Firms' Anxiety

SHANGHAI, MARCH 26.

THE REPORTED REFUSAL OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, IN THE FACE OF PERSISTENT REQUESTS, TO MODIFY THE PROVISION OF THE REVISED CHINESE COMPANY LAW REQUIRING FOREIGN FIRMS WITHOUT A PARENT COMPANY TO BE CONVERTED INTO CHINESE CONCERNS, WITH A CHINESE CITIZEN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HAS AROUSED CONSIDERABLE ANXIETY AND CRITICISM AMONG A LARGE CIRCLE OF FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN HERE.

UNLESS THERE IS AN ELEVENTH-HOUR CHANGE OF ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, MANY BRITISH AND AMERICAN FIRMS WILL BE CONFRONTED WITH ONLY ONE OTHER COURSE IN ADDITION TO COMPLIANCE—DISSOLUTION — WHEN THE NEW LAW COMES INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 1.

In an outspoken editorial on the subject, of the American-owned "Shanghai Evening Post" charges the Chinese Government with adopting "discriminatory legislation without parallel in other countries."

It states that the provision "aims directly at American companies incorporated under the China Trade Act, since the only other important category is British companies incorporated under the Hong Kong Ordinances and these can readily satisfy requirements through operations in the British Crown Colony."

If left in its original form, the paper adds, the law means the end for American firms incorporated under the China Trade Act, which was designed specifically to exempt American firms from United States taxation and which therefore stipulates that they must operate only in China and not in their home country.

128 New Articles

"Conceivably all this is realised in Chungking," says the "Evening Post," "but the desire is to force China Trade Act companies to become Chinese companies. That brings a square issue as to whether American capital desires to adventure in China in Chinese companies. Our clear impression is that where Americans desire to operate their own companies they want them to be frankly American, not Chinese, and not headed by Chinese with no stake in such companies."

The new Chinese Company Law is said to contain 128 articles more than the old Company Law.

The recent revisions by the National Defence Council are said to have been made on four general principles:—

(1) Government encouragement of joint investments by itself and the people and between Chinese and foreigners.

(2) Enjoyment of the same rights and privileges as privately capitalised firms by Government or semi-Government owned companies.

(3) No restrictions on joint Sino-foreign firms on the proportion of capitalisation undertaken.

(4) Foreign capitalised firms must, in principle, be governed in the same manner as Chinese firms.

Chinese Chairman

The previous regulation restricting the capital holding of one company in another to one-fourth is now altered to one half as a measure to encourage investments. Simultaneously, officials of one company are free to hold offices in another.

Only five founders and three directors are necessary to establish a firm, as against the seven and five respectively previously required. At least one half of the founders and directors must have residence in China.

Unnamed shares in a company may amount to half its capital instead of the previously decreed one-third.

Regarding foreign firms, the regulations stipulate that they are subject to Chinese legislation and tax collecting, and that the chairman of the board of directors of a limited liability company must be Chinese.—Reuter.

Matriachy In Old Korea

Seoul, Korea, Mar. 26.

Korean scientists who returned to-day from an anthropological expedition to Cheju Do island, off the southern tip of Korea, reported finding the remains of a social system in which the female was considered superior to the male and in which woman did most of the work.

Under the supervision of the Military Government, 18 Koreans from the Museum of Anthropology stayed at Cheju Do island for two weeks taking pictures, recording geographical features and collecting anthropological data.

Cheju Do people are essentially Koreans, the scientists reported, although individuals are seen frequently whose facial characteristics suggested the influence of southern Japan or possibly Malaya. The scientists said it was too early to determine the origin of these people.—Associated Press.

WOMEN IN COAL MINES

Tokyo, Mar. 26.

They like the new emancipation of labouring women but representatives of the coal mines in northern Kyushu are afraid it will cost them their jobs.

So they told the Welfare Ministry in a formal petition asking for a guarantee of livelihood in case the new regulations prohibiting women from working in pits will be applied to all female mine employees.

The representatives told the Ministry that the employers might discharge women surface workers in addition to actual miners in order to comply fully with the regulations which are effective on April 1. The law, made at the insistence of Allied Headquarters, prohibits employment of women or minors below surface as one step towards the emancipation of women workers. An estimated 9,000 women are now employed in pits.—Associated Press.

Washington, Mar. 26.

Lieut.-General Edmund Gregory to-day promised a substantial part of the Government's vast war surplus would be liquidated within a year's time. The former Quartermaster-General estimated that about $35,000,000,000 worth of Government property will have to be declared as surplus by the middle of this year.—Associated Press.

FAMINE THREAT TO S.E. ASIA

Canberra, March 26.

Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Commander of the SEAC, who is visiting Australia, said to-day: "The whole of South-east Asia is overshadowed by the threat of famine.

"There is a serious shortage of food, particularly rice, which is the staple diet of the Chinese part of the inhabitants. Many districts used to rely on imports from surplus producing countries, Burma, Indo-China and Siam.

"The Japanese, in their occupation, wrecked the agricultural and economic systems of these countries by requisitioning rice and farmers became reluctant to grow it.

"The British task is to stimulate production and reestablish communications."

Admiral Mountbatten said that through tolerance and sympathy on the part of Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, British special envoy to the Netherlands East Indies, there was now great hope of an early successful solution of the Indonesian problem.

After preliminary meetings between the principals, negotiations were now progressing in committee stage. Ninety-five per cent of the Japanese in Java were now under Allied control. "The balance who handed over their arms to the Indonesians before we could reach them are still at large," the Admiral added.

Lord Louis Mountbatten said that he was hopeful that the Japanese would respond to the call to return to the British lines.

Atom Bomb

The Japanese surrender, he added, came at the moment when a great invasion of Singapore and Malaya was about to be launched. From subsequent examination of Japanese dispositions and defences there was no doubt that the operation would have succeeded. "It was lucky for our prisoners-of-war and internees that the Japanese surrendered then. Decreasing rations and increasing filth were causing increasing deathroll. I cannot believe that the Japanese would have moved the prisoners whose camps would have became battlefields."

Discussing the atom bomb, Lord Mountbatten said: "In future, atomic bombs will certainly not be dropped by aircraft. The possibility of radio control must be considered. Without the atomic bomb the Pacific war would have lasted six months longer."—Reuter.

Japanese Who Think The War Is Still On

Tokyo, March 26.

Because of the refusal of large numbers of Japanese internees in India to believe that the war is over, the Japanese Government to-night handed the Swedish Legation here a message for transmission to the Swedish Consulate-General at Bombay, containing definite assurance of Japan's surrender and lengthy extracts from the Emperor's Rescript of August 15 terminating hostilities.

The Swedish Legation, through General MacArthur's Headquarters, asked for a message, following a riot at a camp in Deoli when Japanese internees, disbelieving Japan's surrender, attempted to escape. The guards opened fire, killed 15 internees and wounded 16 others.

With a view to avoiding any further disturbances the Japanese Government were informed that it was highly desirable that they should telegraph confirmation of Japan's surrender immediately to Bombay.

The information contained in the message has been certified by the Swedish diplomatic mission.—Reuter.

MANILA HOTEL OPEN AGAIN

Manila, Mar. 26.

The famous Manila Hotel, scene of some of the bloodiest floor-to-floor fighting of the war, is back in action, a year after the city's liberation.

The doors of the hotel were reopened to the public while workmen were still busy erasing some of the more prominent scars of the fight for the building.

During the Battle of Manila, the Japanese turned the hotel into a fortress and defended it to the last man. American troops, armed with tommy guns and grenades, routed the Japanese defenders out room by room, floor by floor.—Reuter.

LI CHAO-LING MURDER SUSPECT ARRESTED

CHUNGKING, MARCH 26.

A DESPATCH FROM HARBIN SAID THAT A MAN HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH THE MURDER OF LI CHAO-LING, PRESIDENT OF THE SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION THERE. THE DESPATCH ONLY STATED THE MAN HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND CHARGED AND HIS IDENTITY WAS NOT DISCLOSED.

LI CHAO-LING, WHO COMMANDED SOME OF THE COMMUNIST FORCES IN MANCHURIA, WAS FOUND DEAD IN A DESERTED HOUSE IN HARBIN ON MARCH 10, AFTER HAVING DISAPPEARED THE DAY BEFORE. HIS FUNERAL HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 24.

The despatch, appearing in the "Central Daily News," organ of the Kuomintang in Chungking, said that forces formerly under Li Chao-ling's command were ready to march into Harbin at any time.

This allegation followed earlier reports that pro-Communist forces had massed 12 miles from Harbin and were planning to drive on the city the moment the Russians withdrew their troops.

Other despatches reported that Nationalist troops were advancing northward along the trunk railroad from Mukden. The vanguards, it is stated, had passed beyond Tiehling, 40 miles north of Mukden.

"Civil War"

The Communist news agency in a story captioned "Civil War in Manchuria" said that the refusal of the Government to agree to the dispatching of truce teams there had been followed by "further unfoldings of the Kuomintang offensive against the popular local forces in the North-East."

The Communist-led "democratic joint army," it asserted, had so far "frustrated all major Kuomintang attacks around Mukden."

The agency further claimed that Nationalist troops pushing eastward toward the coal-mining town of Fushan were "repelled with heavy losses" on March 21.

Nationalist troops pushing south-westward from Mukden the same day "encountered strong resistance from local forces."

Nationalist troops on March 21 wrested from the "popular forces," the rail town of Liaoyang, 35 miles south of Mukden, it added. The Nationalist attack, it said, was projected from Linchung, 30 miles north-west of Liaoyang.—Associated Press.

Mukden Free-For-All

Chungking, March 26.

The "Citizen's Daily," a commercial paper, to-day said that seven Communist regiments have been dislodged from Fushan, east of Mukden, by the Nationalist 52nd Army and are retreating north-eastward, destroying rails and bridges.

Four out of the seven Communist regiments came from China proper and were commanded by the veteran Communist, General Lin Piao. The Fushan battle was the severest within a month in the North-East.

The paper also reported that the Communists in Chaoyang and Chienping in south-east Jehol are pushing north-eastward. Previous press reports stated that large Communist forces have been massed in Jehol.

The "Citizen's Daily" also said that the taking-over work in Mukden was simply a free-for-all fight, first for factory equipment and machinery, then for buildings and now for furniture. The predatory activities are repelling to the local populace.—Reuter.

Chungking, March 26.

The Soviet authorities have agreed on railway transportation of Chinese Nationalist troops to Changchun to take over the city. The technicalities are now under discussion.—Reuter.

Aims Of The British Council In China

Shanghai, March 26.

In its efforts to strengthen Sino-British relations, the British Council in China is making the best of British thought and experience available, and is seeking to obtain a better understanding of British culture and institutions among the Chinese people.

The Council offers each year a number of scholarships for post-graduate study by Chinese at British universities, and has invited other Chinese to visit Britain for shorter periods for the study of special subjects, such as municipal government and social service administration.

Professor P. M. Roxby, representative of the Council, appealed for closer and friendlier relations between the two countries in an address to the Sino-British Cultural Association in Shanghai.

The Council, which commenced work in China late in 1942 with the arrival of two distinguished British scholars, Professor G. R. Dodds of Oxford, and Professor Joseph Needham of Cambridge, has established contact with universities and the academic world throughout the country.

"The specific aims of the British Council in China, as I understand them are two-fold," Professor Roxby stated, "to make British culture and institutions better understood, and to make the best thought and experience of Britain available to China. The field indicated by this last phrase should not be narrowly interpreted. Countries which really wish to understand one another must obtain a balanced view of each other's life and background, and of the forces which animate their respective national activities and character," he declared.

The British Council, he said, has no political or commercial objects. It is intended to function as a medium of cultural inter-change.—Reuter.

YOKOHAMA WAR TRIAL

Yokohama, Mar. 26.

A former Japanese prisoner of war camp guard, accused of beating and clubbing to death Pvt. Everett L. Tyler, testified before the 8th army tribunal to-day that he did not even know the reason for the beating.

Yoshinari Minemoto, who is on trial with four other Japanese, contends the others beat Tyler but that he only slapped him.

Minemoto stated that no order had been given at the Osaka P.O.W. camp to beat Tyler. He made the statement in response to a question by the tribunal president, Colonel L. B. Wyant.—Associated Press.

Chinese Reds Protest

Chungking, March 26.

The Chinese Communist delegation in Chungking has filed another protest with the Government—the third—against the wrecking of the downtown office and bookstore of the Communist "New China Daily News" on Feb. 22, which the Communists at that time attributed to "Kuomintang gestapo-men."

The protest recalled the Communist demands for punishment of the culprits and compensation for losses suffered and said that the incident "continues to provoke our sentiment and obstruct national unification."

The Communists requested that their renewed protest should be submitted to President Chiang Kai-shek.—Associated Press.

FILIPINO POLICE

Manila, March 26.

A little over a year after General Douglas MacArthur returned the Philippines to civil administration, the army turned the Manila Police Department over to the Filipinos.

Colonel J. P. Holland, who has been Provost Marshal and police chief in the Philippine capital since its liberation, handed over the job to Colonel Tuazon, retired wealthy businessman.

With the department went the finest crime laboratory in the Far East, which Colonel Holland had developed with the latest American scientific crime detection equipment.—Reuter.

TOJO LOSING HIS MEMORY?

Tokyo, Mar. 26.

Wartime Premier Hideki Tojo, who is now convinced he will never leave prison alive, has "begun to lose his memory" authoritative Japanese sources said to-day.

During questioning by American prosecutors the former dictator "no longer remembers dates and other important details" of momentous events of his reign, those sources said.

The Japanese said the American officials were "very dissatisfied with Tojo's loss of memory which they believe he is feigning."

Tojo is in good health and "quite calm" at present in contrast to his former "depressed attitude" these sources said. He is convinced he will not" get out of prison alive."—Associated Press.

Chungking, Mar. 26.

Twenty top-ranking war crimes suspects will be indicted probably within a week or 10 days, the trials to follow as soon as possible, Chief Prosecutor Joseph Keenan said after conferring with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek here. The Keenan party will leave for Shanghai to-day.—Associated Press.

Gate-Crashers Use Guns

Two people were killed and another severely wounded in Tsingyuen (northern Kwangtung) on March 16 when Chinese soldiers who had been ejected from a theatre returned and machine-gunned the premises, according to a report which reached the "China Mail" yesterday.

The occasion was a 3-day theatrical performance given by the town to raise funds for the local Fong Bin Hospital. A certain number of seats had been reserved for troops from the local garrison, but on the third night a further 20 turned up and tried to gain admittance.

They were ejected with some difficulty and the audience settled down again to enjoy the play. Ten minutes later, the soldiers returned with some machine-guns and after calling on those who had "insulted" them to come out opened fire.

Two men were killed, another badly wounded and others suffered minor injuries. The matter has been referred to Canton for disciplinary action to be taken.

Chungking, March 26.

The political council, which is in session in Chungking, proposed to-day that a cable be dispatched to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation agency (U.N.R.R.A.) asking a greater allotment of food for China, Indochina and Burma to remedy famine conditions which are reported to be growing steadily more acute.—Associated Press.

BUCK-TOOTH "BUNNY" A COPPER NOW

Tokyo, March 26.

The girl with the buck teeth who has been missing from the foreign correspondents club dining room for the last few mornings turned up to-day, but she is no longer a waitress — she is a Tokyo lady.

Because she looks like a rabbit ready to gnaw a raw carrot, the heartless press laddies have fittingly dubbed her "Bunny."

Now Bunny is one of the 63 girls selected from among 1,200 candidates as a policewoman.

A very worried guy is the director of the Tokyo police training school. The whole deal has been dumped into the lap of Superintendent Waichi Takahashi and he admits solefully he does not have any idea what a lady cop is like. But Takahashi has whipped together a course of sorts and on April 25 the girls will graduate in slacks, shorts and jackets.

"We are pretty much amateurs in training women officers" Takahashi said. "We will instruct them briefly the basic laws of vice regulations and how to make reports. At first they will direct small traffic and give information but, of course, they will have powers to arrest. I hope Commissioner Lewis Valentine will give us some advice."—Associated Press.

POST OFFICE NOTICES

MAIL NOTICE

OUTWARD MAILS

Wednesday, 27th March.

Macao & Tsinshan	Kwong Sai		9.00 a.m.
Kongmoon	Lam Hing		9.00 a.m.
Honolulu	Doctor Lykes		9.00 a.m.
Australia via Sydney	Empire Charmain	(Parcels)	9.30 a.m.
		(Reg.)	9.45 a.m.
		(Ord.)	10.00 a.m.
Airmail for London, Calcutta, Bangkok & Saigon	By Air	(Reg.)	1.45 p.m.
		(Ord.)	2.00 p.m.
Sandakan (B.N.B.)	Empire Perlis		3.00 p.m.
Kongmoon	Fook Hoi		4.00 p.m.
Canton	By Train		4.00 p.m.

Thursday, 28th March.

Macao & Tsinshan	Kwong Fook Cheung		9.00 a.m.
Kongmoon	Man Hing		9.00 a.m.
Airmail for Canton & Chungking	C.N.A.C. Plane	(Reg.)	3.15 p.m.
		(Ord.)	3.30 p.m.
Straits	Semyannah		4.00 p.m.
Canton	By Train		4.00 p.m.

Friday, 29th March.

Macao & Tsinshan	Kwong Sai		9.00 a.m.
Shanghai	Glenartney		10.00 a.m.
Airmail for London, Calcutta, Rangoon, Singapore & Sydney	By Air	(Reg.)	1.45 p.m.
		(Ord.)	2.00 p.m.
Kongmoon	Cheong Lee		3.00 p.m.
Canton	Fatshan		4.00 p.m.

Saturday, 30th March.

Swatow	Hanyang		10.00 a.m.
Airmail for Canton & Shanghai	C.N.A.C. Plane	(Reg.)	3.15 p.m.
		(Ord.)	3.30 p.m.

Sunday, 31st March.

Haiphong	Nicholas J. Bissett		10.00 a.m.
Canton	Sai On		4.00 p.m.

Monday, 1st April.

Airmail for London, Calcutta, Durban, Rangoon, Singapore & Sydney	By Air	(Reg.)	1.45 p.m.
		(Ord.)	2.00 p.m.
Airmail for Canton & Hoihow	C.N.A.C. Plane	(Reg.)	3.15 p.m.
		(Ord.)	3.30 p.m.

Shanghai	Wing Sing		3-4	Noon
Straits, Ceylon, India, East & South Africa, Aden, Egypt & Europe via Liverpool	Strathmore	(Parcels)	4-4	3.30 p.m.
		(Reg.)	4-4	3.45 p.m.
		(Ord.)	4-4	4.00 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, Central & South America via San Francisco	Sovereign of the Seas	(Parcels)	5-4	9.30 a.m.
		(Reg.)	5-4	9.45 a.m.
		(Ord.)	5-4	10.00 a.m.
India via Madras	Empire Mortimer		5-4	10.00 a.m.
Swatow, Amoy & Straits	Anhui		5-4	10.00 a.m.
Shanghai	Tainan		5-4	2.00 p.m.

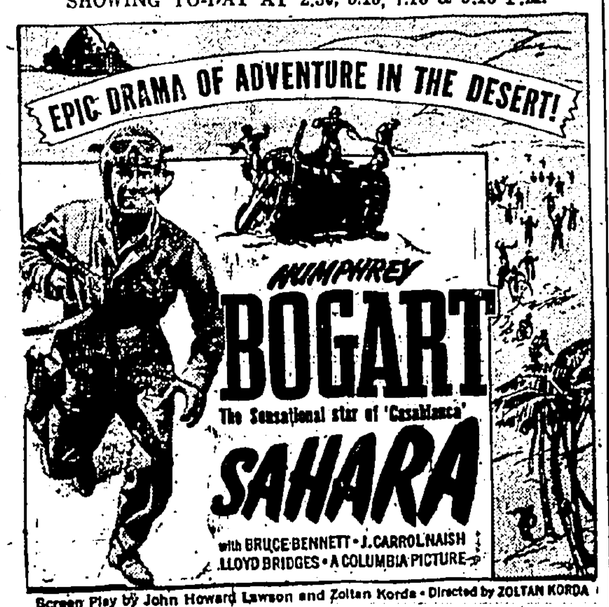
SHOWING TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

— NEXT CHANGE —

"The House on 92nd Street"

LEE THEATRE

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.



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CARY GRANT

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"ONCE UPON A HONEYMOON"

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The Biggest gayest Musical Triumph!

"KISS THE BOYS GOODBYE"

Starring Don Ameche and Mary Martin

—To-morrow—

TILL WE MEET AGAIN

Uno Security Council Postpones Iran Case

NEW YORK, MARCH 26.

THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETS AGAIN TO-DAY AT 9.30 P.M. (NEW YORK TIME) AFTER ADJOURNING YESTERDAY WITHOUT DISCUSSING THE QUESTION OF THE EVACUATION OF RUSSIAN TROOPS FROM IRAN — WHICH, ACCORDING TO MOSCOW, HAS ALREADY BEEN RESUMED.

THE AGREEMENT TO ADJOURN, IT IS STATED, WAS INTENDED TO ENABLE THE UNITED NATIONS DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES IN MOSCOW AND TEHERAN TO OBTAIN OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION THAT RUSSIAN TROOPS ARE EVACUATING IRAN.

The American Embassy in Teheran has been instructed to report on events leading to the Moscow announcement of evacuation and developments in Teheran. Similar instructions have been sent to the British Embassy.

Mr. James Byrnes, Secretary of State, will require assurances regarding Russian evacuation and reports of any Russo-Iranian agreement are being requested by the British delegation, it was learned to-day.

He will ask for a report on the Russo-Iranian negotiations leading up to the evacuation and since, registration with the United Nations of any Russo-Iranian agreement and an explanation of its terms and of their compatibility with other international commitments, including the United Nations Charter itself.

No Reply

As delegates of eleven member nations of the United Nations Security Council met in New York this afternoon, the British Charge d'Affaires in Teheran, Mr. H. L. Farquhar, was trying to confirm reports that Soviet evacuation of Iran was in progress and whether a general agreement had been reached between the Soviet and Iranian Governments.

There was still no information in London on either of these points nor was there any reply to the British note sent to the Soviet Government on March 3, asking why Soviet troops had not been withdrawn from Iran. It was officially pointed out that Britain's anxiety over the Iranian dispute relates both to the danger that Iran may have been forced to negotiate with Moscow under pressure and to the failure to withdraw troops on March 2, as laid down in the 1942 treaty.

The British and United States delegates to the U.N.O. Security Council's new session are expected to demand a report of the negotiations between Russia and Iran leading to the start of the Red Army evacuation, reported by the Moscow Radio last night.

Political observers in London interpret the Soviet withdrawal decision to mean that the Soviet Iranian dispute has been settled out of court. They believe that the Iranian Government has agreed to meet the substance of the Soviet demands. If, therefore, the subject is debated at the Security Council meeting in New York, it will be at most a matter of form.

Iranian Agreement?

There arises the further question of whether Britain will be content simply to overlook the Soviet breach of its obligations to Britain as a party to the Anglo-Soviet Iranian treaty of 1942.

Reports circulating in foreign circles in Moscow to-day, cables Reuters correspondent, Eric Downton, said that the Iranian Government has agreed to recognise the regional autonomy of the Soviet occupied province of Azerbaijan and to remove a number of "reactionaries" from office.

The Iranian Government was also said to be revising its policy regarding oil concessions to foreign powers.

There was no confirmation of these reports in official Soviet quarters but an American broadcast from Moscow made this comment: "It is believed that the Iranian policy towards oil concessions may be revised in the way which will reassure Soviet concern over Kiku-Turkmen oilfields and possibly more than that."—Reuter.

"Personal Victory"

Teheran, March 26.

Prince Muzaffar Firouz, Iranian Government spokesman, stated to-day that the Iranian Prime Minister, Ghavam Es Sultaneh, hailed the Soviet decision to withdraw Russian troops from Iran as a "great personal victory."

Prince Firouz added that no agreement had been signed with the Russians for their evacuation. An agreement was not necessary as the Soviet move was in conformity with the treaty between Iran, Britain and Russia.

The Iranian Government was informed of the Soviet move yesterday by the new Soviet Ambassador to Teheran.—Reuter.

Tension Eased

Moscow, Mar. 26.

A Tass announcement that Red Army forces are withdrawing from Iran brought from a well-informed diplomatic observer the prediction that the entire Iranian-Russian question will shortly be settled to the satisfaction of both countries.

The development, coupled with the news that the Red Army was also withdrawing from Manchuria, has been given wide publicity and has contributed to the general easing of the tension.

Both Chinese and Iranian circles have expressed satisfaction.—Associated Press.

Household Tractor

London, Mar. 26.

A new British machine which, it is claimed, will do more for the housewife than the tractor has done for the farmer, is demonstrated in London this week.

It is an automatic electric machine that washes both clothes and dishes.

This double-purpose washer needs no special installation. Operation is simplicity itself. One kettleful of hot water is sufficient to wash a dinner service for six people.

Similarly eight pounds of clothes can be washed, doubled rinsed and dried in 30 mins., with the minimum of soap powder and attention.

In appearance it is a compact enamelled cabinet, two ft. square and 36 inches high.

The Inventors are "Ah Young & J. W. Barton," and the manufacturers, Hurley Machine Co., London, W1., say it will be available in limited quantities by June. —London Press Service.

TREASON CASES IN MANILA

Manila, March 26.

More than 1,000 indictments for treason have been filed thus far in the People's Court, special tribunal set up to try Filipinos for collaborating with the Japanese during the three-year enemy occupation.

Most of the cases are for alleged spying and for those accused of informing for the Japanese military police.

Thirteen Japanese have been sentenced to death on atrocity convictions by the United States Military Commission sitting here. Three of those convicted, including Tomoyuki Yamashita, have already been hanged. Among the remaining doomed ten is General Homma, scheduled to be shot.—Reuter.

TITO TOUR

London, March 26.

The Belgrade Radio stated that Marshal Tito returned to Belgrade from his tour of Poland and Czechoslovakia this morning.

He was greeted at the railway station by a crowd estimated at 100,000 people.—Reuter.

U.S. Negroes Leave 544 Half-Castes

London, March 26.

The League of Colored Peoples to-day revealed tragic souvenirs that American negro soldiers had left behind—544 half-caste children born of 536 British women.

Some of Britain's demobilised soldiers are returning home to find their wives nursing half-castes, according to the "News of the World."

In a sizable proportion of the cases, according to Miss Sylvia McNeill, a Jamaican schoolteacher member of the League, the women have children by lawful husbands.

Dr. Harold Moody, president of the League, suggests that the children should be regarded as war casualties for whom England and America should accept joint responsibility.

British M.P.'s To Visit Persia

London, March 26.

Mr. Michael Foot, Labour Member of Parliament for Devonport, and a Conservative Member, have been selected by the Cabinet to form a parliamentary mission to Iran, it was announced to-day in the House of Commons by the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hector McNeil.

The two members are leaving London to-night for Teheran.

When Mr. Anthony Nutting (Conservative) asked for an assurance that the delegation would have the fullest freedom of movement, particularly in Northern Iran, Mr. McNeil replied that he would be surprised if "any unreasonable barriers" were set up.

To the question whether the visit might not "savour of interference in the domestic affairs of another country," Mr. McNeil replied: "Naturally, if the Iranian Government offered any objections, these would be considered, but I should be surprised if they did."

It is felt here that with the release of various official statements at the Security Council meeting in New York and with the prospect of a report to Parliament by two members able to travel freely about the country, there is prospect that the confusion caused by the news blackout and conflicting statements will soon be cleared up.

Informed quarters in London understand that fresh instructions have been sent to Britain's permanent representative on the Security Council, Sir Alexander Cadogan, following to-day's official consultation. Britain is believed to have stated the view that the Iranian question ought to be aired in New York, and the terms of the settlement between Teheran and Moscow, if one has really been reached, explained to the representatives of the 11 nations on the Council.—Reuter.

Anxiety Until Harvest Is In

Rome, Mar. 25.

Herbert Hoover, former President of the United States and present chairman of the Emergency Food Committee, said to-day that the problem in Italy is the same as in other parts of the world, and that is to "prevent starvation during the next 120 days until the next harvest is gathered."

Hoover, who was sent by President Truman to investigate the food situation in Europe, told a press conference that lower income groups and children will starve soon after the food imports stop. "Our anxiety is not for the moment, but for the next four months, just before the new harvest."

He added "The food story in Italy is one of decreased production as a result of the war, drought, exaustion of stocks and increased difficulties in distribution which forced a decrease in the cereal ration from 10 to seven ounces daily per person. Stokes of cereals on hand and supplies on route will maintain this reduced ration for about 30 more days.

It is urgent that further supplies be loaded immediately, he declared. The situation in Italy is similar to that in 19 other countries, where 500,000,000 people will still be short of food for the next 120 days.

If rationing was introduced again in the United States 2,500,000 tons of food could be saved for export. He added that it is hoped that co-operation could be obtained in other countries on the question of food conservation to increase exports of food throughout a famine threatened world.—Associated Press.

Hussein Ala Non-Drinker, Non-Smoker

Washington, March 26.

Ambassador Hussein Ala of Iran, now engaged in the delicate task of piloting his government's controversial note through the intricacies of the infant United Nations Organization, has spent a lifetime in preparation for just such a role.

The son of Prince Ala-es-Sultaneh, Iranian Minister to Britain for nearly 20 years, the Ambassador was educated in English schools and has spent most of his life in the Iranian Government service. As a result of his British schooling he speaks English without a trace of accent.

He has been secretary of the Iranian legation in London, a member of the Foreign Office in Teheran, a Minister in the Iranian Cabinet and a delegate to the 1919 peace conference. He came to Washington for the first time in 1921 as his government's minister. In 1927 he served in the same capacity in France.

After that he became President of the National Bank of Iran and then Minister to the court from which position he was appointed Ambassador to the United States last December. He is one of the few who has remained in service through the various revolutions which have taken over the troubled Middle Eastern nation during the past 20 years. Ala is known as one of the most outspoken members of the Washington Diplomatic Corps, and he invariably speaks freely to journalists. He is quiet and scholarly, interested in literature and poetry, and does not drink, dance or engage with much enthusiasm in sports.

His wife and daughter (the latter's name is Iran) live with him at the Iranian Embassy. Ala has one son, now attending school in England, where his daughter also received her education.—Associated Press.

Vatican Bestows Laurels On Soviet Leader

Vatican City, March 26.

The "Observatore Romano" yesterday expressed satisfaction over the recent Associated Press interview with Generalissimo Joseph Stalin and noted that Stalin's comments were met with approval everywhere.

Rarely in recent months has the official Vatican organ had anything good to say about Russia or her leader. However, praise in yesterday's article was almost fullsome. The "Observatore" described it as a Christian act that the head of a great political power affirms that only the flame of peace must be encouraged. "There are those who question his intentions—this is less Christian—" it said.

The interview, "Observatore" said, constituted not only a statement of Stalin's peaceful intentions but also a "call to peace."

"While there are in the world to-day those who swear that the flame of war crackles under the ashes, one who is the head of a great political power affirms that only the flames of peace must be fanned. That is Christian," the "Observatore" declared.—Associated Press.

Moscow, March 26.

Soviet seal hunting ships have killed 50,000 seals in the past four months, it was reported here to-day.—Reuter.

TO-DAY ONLY **CENTRAL THEATRE** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15

ATOM BOMB! THE END OF THE ROAD THAT BEGAN WITH THE MARCH OF DEATH!

ALSO "FLICKER FLASH-BACK" NO. 4.

— *COMMENCING TO-MORROW* —

GINGER ROGERS — RAY MILLAND

IN

"MAJOR AND THE MINOR"

KING'S

SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
REVEALS THE SEAMY SIDE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S LONDON, A SUBJECT NEW TO THE SCREEN

Distributed by EAGLE-LION

MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30; 5.00; 7.00 & 9.00 p.m.
THE RECORD-BREAKING PICTURE IN MOTION PICTURE HISTORY

"BATHING BEAUTY"

(IN TECHNICOLOUR)
Starring RED SKELTON
ESTHER WILLIAMS
M-G-M's Most Spectacular Water Carnival!

REAL RUSSIAN FOOD
only at
TKACHENKO'S
3, Hankow Road
Kowloon
Ground and First Floor.
Phone 50559.

London, March 26.

It is announced that Swedish Red Cross teams are operating in many places in the British zone in Germany, including Dortmund, Essen and Duisburg. Together they feed between 50,000 and 60,000 children daily.—Reuter.

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NOWHERE ELSE can you see for yourself such a magnificent collection of "pre-war made" exquisitely-carved teak-camphor-lined chests as now shown by Modo Elite, 22 Queen's Road Central. Also unpacked directly from Soochow "Finest" pure silk embroidered pyjamas, kimonds etc. with "washable" embroideries. Seeing is believing!

NOTICE.

Will anybody possessing information as to the whereabouts of:—

MISS REBECCA JUDAH
MISS RAMAH JUDAH
MR. TUNKU ABDULLAH

please communicate with the Secretariat, Civil Affairs Administration, C.S.O. Building, Lower Albert Road.

The last known address of the Misses Judah was "The Den," Castle Road, Hong Kong, and they were last heard of in 1941.

Mr. Tunku Abdullah is the son of the Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan and was last heard of in November, 1945.

HELENA MAY INSTITUTE

Would anyone having knowledge of the whereabouts of any of the records of the Institute, or possessing a copy of the Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1940, please get in touch with the undersigned as soon as possible.

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS.

Treasurers,
HELENA MAY INSTITUTE,
Mercantile Bank Building.
2nd Floor.

Hong Kong, 26th March, 1946.

SERVICE AUCTION ROOMS

Auctioneers, Surveyors, & et.
Basement, French Bank Bldg
A.E.B. de Sousa, Auctioneer.
Telephone 31867

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Appraisers,
Pedder Building,
Telephone No. 20224

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions from The Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction on

Wednesday, the 27th. March 1946

commencing at 10.30 a.m.

at the Premises of the Kung On Godown, Praya, West Point

90 Lots of Miscellaneous Goods comprising:—

Earthenware, Sand for Cutting Jade Stone, Cardboard Paper, Rattan Peel, Crockery and New Wooden Crates for Kerosene etc., etc.

The above premises will be open to inspection on the 25th and 26th, March 1946, between 10.00 a.m. and Noon and between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m.

The Auction is subject to the Conditions of Sale published in the Hong Kong Gazette dated Saturday, March, 9th, 1946.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

Arrivals

Yesterday:—U.S.S. Gardiners Bay from Singapore, S.S. San Andres from Australia, S.S. Roger T. Newell from Japan, S.S. John Carroll from Japan.

Scheduled Arrivals

To-day:—H.M.S. Argonaut from Kure, S.S. Heron from Singapore, S.S. Alexander White from Singapore.

To-morrow:—S.S. Samchesa from Dar, S.S. Enid Victory from San Pedro.

Scheduled Departures

To-day:—S.S. Doctor Lykes, H.M.S. Fernmoor for Singapore, U.S.S. Duxberry Bay for Shanghai, S.S. Empire Charmain for Manus and Sydney.

To-morrow:—S.S. Empire Perils for Labuan, S.S. Garden Park for Shanghai.

Port Directory

Cruisers: Bermuda, on North Arm; Euryalus, A2 Buoy.

Minelayer: Apollo, No. 1 Buoy.

Destroyers: Cockade, No. 8 Buoy; Finisterre, Aberdeen Dry Dock; Trafalgar, No. 5 Buoy.

Submarine: Tally Ho, on Springdale.

Escort Vessels: Rame Head, No. 6 Buoy; Cauvery, Escort Duties; Crane, Escort Duties; Opossum, B26 Buoy; Whimbrel, A.F.D. 18; Redpole, B25 Buoy; Veryan Bay, M7; Whitesand Bay, Escort Duties.

Portugese Sloop: Gonçalo Velho, Taikoo.

Merchant Ships: Agnes, Anchored off Yaumati; Aorangi, Taikoo Dock; Anhui, Taikoo; Crista; City of Durban, A11 Buoy; Doctor Lykes, Kowloon Pier; Empire Charmian, M3; Empire Mortimer, Kowloon No. 3; Empire Perils, Lychee Kok; Foochow, Frank B. Kellogg, B4 Buoy; G. R. Clark, Holt's No. 1; Glenartney, Holt's No. 2; Hanyang, Taikoo; Heilkon, E4; Jaarstroom, Taikoo Dock Wall; Kweiyang, B2 Buoy; Ocean Pilgrim, A8; Sarpen, off Kowloon Dock; Samdauntless, Mackies Wharf; Samvannah, Mackies Wharf; Shenking, Sugar Refinery Wharf; Taksang, Holt's No. 2; Tonjer, off Kowloon Dock; Thomas Hartley, Units, Kowloon Dock; William Meredith, E10.

Task Force 74: Charis, No. 18 Buoy; Duxbury Bay, Kowloon Bay; Gardiners Bay, Kowloon Bay; Los Angeles, A4 Buoy; Vastal, A17 Buoy; Kaskaskia, A6 Buoy; Kermit Roosevelt, B21 Buoy; Lignite, U.S. Anchorage; Tamalpais (AO 96), Anchored near A17 Buoy; AOG 4, U.S. Anchorage; APL 11, B2 Buoy; APD 31, 89; ATF 93, on YP 641; DD 934, 884, D16 Buoy; LC 97, 62, U.S. Anchorage; LC (FF) 1091, B12 Buoy; LCS 60, 43, B12 Buoy; YMS 313, on Vastal; YP (W) 176, on LST 991; YF 786, 738, U.S. Anchorage; YP 641, 348, U.S. Anchorage; ATR 79, B21 Buoy; YMS 329, 336, U.S. Anchorage; Kennegage, A5 Buoy; YO 70, U.S. Anchorage; YP 348, B16 Buoy; DE 327, 328, 696, 326, B15 Buoy; YR 68, U.S. Anchorage; LST 991, DE 700, B17; YTL552, on Vastal.

FLEET TRAIN

Hospital Ships: Empire Clyde, A7 Buoy; Helena Modjeska, Kowloon 4 South.

Store Ships: Bonaventure, Kowloon No. 6 North; Fernmoor, M4; Slesvig, Oil Fuel Jetty; HMAS Whang Pu, Mackies Wharf.

SHIPS ADMINISTERED BY COMMODORE HONGKONG

H.M.S. Aorangi, in Seamens Mission.

Minesweepers: Jewel, Sweeping; Courier, Sweeping; Wave, Sweeping; Serene, Sweeping; Liberty, Sweeping; Welcome, Sweeping; Hare, Sweeping; Kelantan, on Tamar on West Wall.

B.Y.M.S.: 2246, Wellington Trot; 2153, 2080 2018, 2064, 2045, 2284, Sweeping; 2017, Aberdeen.

Dan Layers: MFV 987, Aberdeen Slip; MFV 1156, 1092, Sweeping, MFV 280, Survey; Orsay, in Basin; Trolday, to Taikoo Slip at 1300; Eduardo (MFV 2046), Tidal Basin.

Fleet Oilers: Wave Monarch, on Wave King; Wave King, A9 Buoy; Vacport, Hong Kong D. Dock; Wave Emperor, E2.

Harbour Oilers: Brown Ranger, on Berrauda; Celerol, Coaling Camber; Rapidol, Coaling Camber; Darat Greek, Coaling Camber; Salt Flat, Coaling Camber; Loma Novia, Coaling Camber.

Water Boats: Seven Sisters, Coaling Camber; S.V.Y. 17, Kowloon Boat Camber.

Air Store Issuing Ship: Fort Colville, E6.

N.S.I.S.: Bacchus, A14 Buoy.

V.S.I.S.: Fort Constantine A1 Buoy.

A.S.I.S.: Hickory Glen, D4.

Boom Layers: Barbain, Boom Defence Depot, Kowloon; Baronia, Boom Defence Depot, Kowloon; Barmond, Boom Defence Depot, Kowloon; Bartizan, Boom Defence Depot, Kowloon.

Crane Ship: Seishu Maru, Wellington Wall.

Repair Ship: Springdale, Tidal Basin.

Depot Ship: Tamar, Dock Wall West.

Salvage Vessels: Salvictor, Taikoo; King Salvor, Salvage Work at Breaker Point; Prince Salvor, Wellington Wall.

Rescue Tugs: Allegiance, on Thracian; Eminent, on Brown Ranger; Flaunt, on Brown Ranger.

H.D.M.L. Flotilla: 1098, Aberdeen; 1107, Aberdeen; 1150, Patrol; 1082, Survey Duties; 1105, Tidal Basin; 1106, 1180, 1108, Tidal Basin.

Tugs: Empire Sam, Tidal Basin; Empire Josephine, Tidal Basin; Rockwing, Tidal Basin; Rockland, Tidal Basin; Rockcliffe, Tidal Basin; Rockpidgeon, Tidal Basin.

L.C.I.'S: 11, 12, 129, 169, 179, 216, Coaling Camber, Kowloon.

HONG KONG CLUB

In view of the approaching resumption of activities of the Club, all resident members please register their names and addresses with the undersigned as soon as possible.

LOWE BINGHAM & MATTHEWS.

Accountants,
HONG KONG CLUB,
Mercantile Bank Building,
2nd Floor.
Hong Kong, 26th March, 1946.

Far East Trade Expansion Urged

SYDNEY, MARCH 26.

LEADING AUSTRALIAN EXPORTERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS YESTERDAY URGED THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO EXPORT GOODS TO THE FAR EAST.

THEY WERE COMMENTING ON AN ARTICLE BY IAN FITCHETT DESCRIBING THE OVERWHELMING DEMAND FOR AUSTRALIAN GOODS IN THE FAR EAST.

Vice-president of the Australian Export Federation (Mr. R. A. Archinal) said China was Australia's greatest potential market.

The Commonwealth Government should allocate part of Australia's commerce for immediate export to China, he said.

Mr. Archinal added: "Shipping should be made available.

"The Commonwealth Government is not as alert as the Governments of other countries, particularly Britain and America.

"These Governments have realised the need for expanding export trade.

"The British Board of Trade has sent men all over the world to assist in the rehabilitation of Britain's trade."

Reduced Costs

President of the Employers' Federation (Mr. O. D. A. Oberg), who recently returned from a world tour after attending the San Francisco Conference, said: "While other countries are concerned with political issues, an excellent opportunity exists for Australia to increase her export trade in the Far East.

"But Australians must realise that costs have to be reduced to enable us to compete with world production."

President of the Chamber of Commerce (Mr. A. E. Heath) said: "Once exchange difficulties are overcome there will be remarkable opportunities in the Far East for Australian exporters."

BRITISH COAL SCHEME

London, Mar. 26.

Details of a four and a half million pound reconstruction scheme by the Manchester Collieries, England, which it is estimated, will be more than double the company's annual coal output, is announced by the "Financial Times."

The scheme includes the construction of a 450 yd. tunnel to carry coal on a rubber conveyor direct from coalface to the electricity power station of the Manchester Corporation.

It is estimated that with the new six ft. thick seams in the pit, the number of men employed would rise from 850 to 1,150; and the annual output would increase from 225,000 to 500,000 tons.—London Press Service.

PAGE—7

OIL FROM BORNEO

Sydney, Mar. 26.

The first shipment of 3,500,000 gallons of crude oil from British North Borneo is being discharged at Sydney. This will be refined at the rate of 12,000,000 gallons monthly.

However, the Minister of Supplies and Shipping states that there will be little hope that the petrol ration would end in Australia until the United States Congress approves the loan to Britain.—Reuter.

BRITISH RADAR FOR NORWAY

London, Mar. 26.

Orders for 16 Radar sets of a total value of £40,000, have been placed with the Metropolitan Vickers, Manchester, England, by two Oslo firms.

The Norwegian Transatlantic liner "Starvanger Fjord" is having a radar apparatus installed in the near future.—London Press Service.

WHALERS TREK

Capetown, March 26.

The homeward trek of whalers from the Antarctic is beginning.

In addition to the 14,000 ton whaling factory ship "Sir James Clark Ross," which is expected in Capetown towards the end of the week, the factory ship "Thorshammer" and her accompanying whalers is now on her way to Capetown, where she is due on April 6.—Reuter.

MORE BRITISH SACRIFICE

Atlantic City, Mar. 26.

An additional 50,000 tons of grain have been promised to Italy, in an effort to eliminate a possible 25% cut in Italian bread rations in April, Dr. E. Orlono, Italian Government representative at the UNRRA conference, disclosed. Orlono said UNRRA and British and American Government officials had "agreed in principle" to divert six ships to Italy which were carrying wheat originally destined for British Empire ports.—Associated Press.

Hanging On To Nazi Assets

London, Mar. 26

The Allied financial mission in the United States discussing German assets in Switzerland are meeting with difficulties, according to the "Evening Standard" correspondent in Washington.

He cabled that the negotiations opened in an atmosphere of marked disagreement among the representatives. The latest fight developed over the discrepancy between the Allied estimate of £180,000,000 and the Swiss contention that German assets in their country were only £60,000,000.

The dispute has now dwarfed in importance by the Swiss stand against handing over the assets that they hold.

It is stated that the admitted £60,000,000 of German assets in Switzerland is exactly equal to the Swiss claim against the Germans on the Swiss-German clearing agreement. An American official observed to-day: "If they could lend the Nazis £60,000,000 through us, it is strange that they cannot turn over to us German assets to help to restore the revastation brought by the Nazis in occupied countries."

The "Evening Standard" correspondent proceeds to say that during the first half of the negotiations the Swiss presented a "plan" to assure that the Germans would never obtain German assets held in Switzerland. The plan was that the Swiss would simply take these assets and apply them to their German credit.

To meet the Allied security requirements, namely that German assets should never again be used to start another war, the Swiss merely offered assurances that they would see to it that under their control these assets could never be used for aggression.

The view of the British, American and French negotiators is that the Swiss proposal is only to use Allied reparations, machinery, to settle Swiss credit in Germany.—Reuter.

BRITISH GIFT TO POLAND

London, Mar. 26.

The British Government has decided to make available for the Polish Provisional Government a quantity of railway bridging to the value of about £535,000 as a further contribution to the rehabilitation of Poland.

Announcing this in the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Hector McNeil, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that as Poland was not in a position to pay for this material, which consisted mainly of surplus stores, it was decided to send it as a gift.

The shipment of bridging, which had already begun, would facilitate the distribution of UNRRA supplies and goods produced in Poland.—Reuter.

Liverpool Protest On Cotton Decision

London, March 26.

A delegation from the Liverpool Cotton Association is to visit the Board of Trade in London on Wednesday to ask for a revision of the British Government's decision to close permanently the Liverpool Cotton futures market by continuing centralized bulk purchasing through the cotton control.

A section of cotton manufacturers feel that the effect of continued state purchasing will be to maintain an artificially high scale of prices to the detriment of British trade.

Liverpool brokers are also protesting that the city will lose its status through the Cotton Exchange disappearance.

Supporters of the Government say the decision will ensure fair prices and has ended extensive gambling by brokers who have made fortunes by buying cotton as a speculation and selling at scarcity prices to spinners.

A keen debate therefore seems likely when a motion, tabled by a group of conservative members of Parliament, comes before the House of Commons. The motion declares that the Government scheme, besides forcing up prices, will deprive Britain of an important source of foreign revenue.

New Argument

Meanwhile, a new argument was introduced to-day by a correspondent in the London "Times" who wrote: "For the past two years the cotton control has been selling Egyptian cotton of different varieties to Lancashire spinners at roughly 5d. per pound (sometimes 7d. per pound) below the current purchasing price of the same cotton in Egypt.

"Why should it be expected," he asked, "that the United States Congress should readily acquiesce in granting a loan when a system is to be perpetuated whereby — against every principle of fair international trading — American spinners weaving Egyptian cotton can be faced with competition from Lancashire subsidised at the ratio of 5d. per pound or more?"—Associated Press.

TRADE DELEGATION

Chungking, March 26.

A six-man Indian trade mission, headed by K. K. Chettiar, Joint Secretary of the Department of Commerce of the Government of India, arrived in Chungkong this afternoon from Shanghai, after visiting Hong Kong, Peiping and Tientsin.

The mission's object is cementing Sino-Indian trade relations. It will stay here for a week and expects to see Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.—Reuter.

N.Y. COTTON

New York, Mar. 26.

Cotton futures opened higher on the New York market yesterday on aggressive mill buying, but demand slackened and the trend became irregular by noon. Traders heard renewed rumours that that government might lower their ceiling prices on cotton.

Prices at the close were as follow:

May	27.71 cents per lb.
July	27.50 " "

—Associated Press.

BRIDGE NOTES

To-day's crime isn't easy to spot, so polish up your microscopes:

South, Dealer
East-West vulnerable

	S. K 8 H. 10 9 8 D. K 10 6 4 2 C. K 9 2	
S. 9 6 4 H. A Q 5 4 2 D. Q 5 C. 7 6 3	N W E S	S. J 10 7 4 H. 7 3 D. J 9 8 C. Q J 8 5
	S. A Q 5 3 H. K J 6 D. A 7 3 C. A 10 4	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the four of hearts, dummy winning with the eight. A low diamond was returned to South's Ace, and on the second round of diamonds West was allowed to hold the trick with his Queen. West returned the nine of spades, hoping to get his partner in, but South gathered in ten tricks before giving up the lead.

And there's a nice juicy murder for you to play around with! We'll give you a hint: one of the defenders is the criminal. See if you can spot the crime before you read any more.

West is the criminal, and his crime took place at the second trick! He murdered the defence by holding on to the diamond Queen; he should have dropped it when South played the diamond Ace. After all, his Queen is useless unless his partner has the Jack of diamonds; and if his partner has the diamond Jack, West must drop the Queen so as to let East win the diamond trick. For if East wins the diamond trick, he can return a heart and allow West to take four heart tricks.

* * *

Yesterday you were Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held:

S. A Q J 8 5
H. K J 8 6
D. J
C. K 10 5

The bidding:

Mafer	You	Jacoby	Schenken
1 H.	1S.	Pass	2C.
2D.	(?)		

ANSWER: Bid three clubs. You have too much strength to pass, and the club raise is more informative than a rebid in spades. Your partner almost surely counts on you for a fairly strong five-card spades suit, so a spade rebid adds very little to your partner's impression of your hand.

Score 100 per cent for three clubs, 50 per cent for two spades, 20 per cent for pass.

QUESTION

To-day you hold the same hand, and the bidding continues:

Mafer	You	Jacoby	Schenken
1 H.	1S.	Pass	2C.
2D.	3C.	Pass	3NT
Dbl.	(?)		

What do you bid? (Answer To-morrow).

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HOMEWARDS:
M.S. "MONGOLIA"
loading here second half of April
for
Antwerp, Rotterdam, Copenhagen and probably Oslo, Gothenburg.

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Pressure-Drive Cars Round The Corner

New York, March 26.

Revolutionary changes are looming in the drive and design of motor cars in the next two years. This year will probably be the last in which the automobile field will be dominated by conventional front-engine and rear-wheel drive models.

Leading U.S. manufacturers, eager to cash in on the first rich post-war market, have rushed into production with cars only slightly different from those of 1941. By using old dies, tools and blueprints, they were able to reconvert their plants swiftly from war jobs, and get vehicles to the car-hungry public.

But next year and 1948 you can expect to see really radical types of cars pouring from American production lines.

Among sensational engineering changes planned and already in the experimental stage are:

Cars with power transmitted to all four wheels.

Cars with the engine placed at the rear.

Cars driven by air pressure.

Electric cars, with individual motors for each wheel.

Cars propelled by jet engines.

Amphibious cars for sport.

Cars driven by oil pressure.

An oil-pressure, gearless car was demonstrated at Detroit recently, and created a sensation in automobile circles.

It is the brain-child of inventor Ray Russell, who has been retained by the Ford Motor Company to supervise hydraulic drive developments.

Russell's car has a conventional petrol engine, located at the rear, but there the resemblance to the ordinary car ceases.

Connected directly to the engine's crankshaft are multiple pumps, which force oil through motors fitted to each wheel.

The new vehicle's "plumbing system" does away with the drive shaft, transmission, clutch, differential, universal joints, front and rear axles, brakes, and brake-drums.

Elimination of these bulky parts reduces the weight of the car by 800 to 1000 lb., simplifies driving, and provides a smooth flow of power comparable to steam.

From seven to 15 forward and reverse speeds can be produced with oil pressure drive, depending upon the number of oil pumps.

Three pumps on Russell's car give seven speeds, and four pumps provide 15 speeds.

Braking action is obtained by slowing down the flow of oil through the wheel motors. A single valve that changes the direction of the oil flow takes the place of a reverse gear system.

Experimental models of Russell's car, now under construction, have a framework of welded steel tubing and a plywood body.

A novel feature is the easily removable engine, which can be lifted out by loosening four bolts. It takes only an hour to remove the engine and replace it with a new one.

Russell's theory is that garages will some day stock spare engines as they do batteries. You will simply drive in and have a rental engine installed while your own is being repaired.

Another advantage of pressure drive is that the engine can be located anywhere in the car, even at right angles to the chassis.

Russell has three models of his pressure drive car on the drawing boards.

One is a roomy, streamlined sedan, with a rear seat holding four passengers, and three adjustable chairs for the driver and additional riders.

The second is a small two-seater, called "Gadabout," for city driving and short trips.

A welded steel framework completely encircles the car for protection in case of collision.

The third design is an amphibious car, which will travel at up to 60 m.p.h. on the road and 15 m.p.h. on water. It is a six-seater, with a disappearing top and a propeller enclosed in a tunnel at the stern.

The price of Russell's vehicles is expected to range from £200 for the Gadabout to about £600 for the amphibian.

No Reason For War

Washington, Mar. 26.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt stated at a news conference here today that she saw no reason for war with Russia, and that Russia was primarily interested in the security of her borders, and increasing her trade for consumer goods.

The late President's widow arrived here from air from Los Angeles. She said that it seemed to her that while the United States and Britain were primarily interested in oil in Iran, Russia's greater concern was for an outlet through the Persian Gulf.

She added that she saw no reason why the United Nations Organisation could not function and peace be guaranteed, providing that this country and others took a vote of active interest.—Associated Press.

PHOTO DISPLAY OF 14TH ARMY

Bombay, Mar. 26.

An exhibition of photographs illustrating the strenuous campaigns of General Slim's 14th Army is now touring India. Many of the photographs on view have been withheld so far on grounds of security.

The exhibition, which was inaugurated in Bombay by the Governor, Sir John Colville, has a separate section on the campaign in the Middle East, to complete the picture of India's fighting men. A full account has also been given of the part played by the women's services.—Reuter.

UNITE OR DIVIDE?

India At First Crossroad

Not All Shackles "British-Made"

BOMBAY, MARCH 26.

INDIA, STANDING ON THE THRESHHOLD OF POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE, SHOWS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF REALIZING WHAT WEIGHTY, INTERNAL PROBLEMS WILL COME WITH FREEDOM.

HER POLITICIANS NOW ARE OPENLY DIVIDED ONLY ON ONE QUESTION — THE RELIGIOUS ISSUE OF WHETHER INDIA SHALL REMAIN UNITED OR DIVIDED INTO TWO STATES, PAKISTAN FOR MOSLEMS, AND HINDUSTAN FOR THE HINDU MAJORITY.

Regardless, however, of whether India splits or remains intact, there must ensue the grasp for power on the part of conflicting elements among the population of this "Jewel of the Empire" when the British let go their reins.

This vast, sprawling subcontinent then will become a political battlefield of opposing economic and social philosophies.

India is a great land with many "have nots." It is one of the most illiterate major countries on the globe. Its wealth is concentrated in a small upper class, and huge masses of people live in life-long financial bondage. They are born into debt and die in debt.

But will they be content to remain feudal peons? If their "non-violent" political revolution succeeds, will economic and social revolution be far behind?

Blame The British

Young Indian intellectuals don't bother themselves much about what will happen when their people are "free." At present they blame all of India's ills on Britain.

If Indian cows give less than one-fifth as much milk as European cows who is to blame? The British.

If crops fail and famine follows, whose fault is it? The British.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, alone among India's popular leaders, has counselled need of lifting India from its present agricultural feudalism to industrial democracy. But few of his followers appear yet to realize what sweeping changes must be made in Indian life to achieve even the rudiments of real democracy.

They talk and talk endlessly of politics. That is the course of India, politics. Too much political talk and too little social action. Most young Indians are as ardently and selflessly patriotic as any group their age in the world, but they appear to have unbounded faith that the blind will see and the lame will walk and deserts will sprout rice just as soon as the British yield their authority.

Greater Problem

They have sadly to learn of greater battles to come — the fight against "the enemy within," their own home-grown Fascists who for centuries have lived in ease and luxury. India is a stratified, crushing social pyramid, at whose bottom lie fifty million casteless "untouchables."

India is already the world's eighth industrial power. The factory system is slowly helping break down the age-old caste system, but has helped less to break down economic barriers or provide an avenue out of poverty for toiling millions. Ignorant factory workers and educated Indian school teachers alike learn less than native servants in larger cities, who get less than $20 a month.

The machine has failed to become the major liberating force in India it has been in Western nations. And most observers agree that working conditions and pay are better in European-run factories here than in those operated by rich Indians.

No Middle Class

Those who best love India — and it is surprising to find how many foreigners here hold her in equal affection with their own countries — know that the shackles of empire are only one of many bonds that must be broken — through bloodshed or long compromise — before she can be truly free. They are the shackles of caste, prejudice, religious antagonism, bigotry, ignorance, superstition, exploitation and cruel want. And these are chains that don't all bear the trademark, "made in Britain."

So India stands at only the first of two crossroads. It is the second crossroads that holds the chief interest to the outside world, what do its signposts say? Industrial feudalism or industrial democracy? Fascism? Communism?

India lacks now the leaven of a great middle class, the middle class that likes the middle way.—Associated Press.

BALLOT FOR LUNCH

London, March 26.

Because of the food shortage in Britain, the American Chamber of Commerce in London has a ballot for members and guests for its lunches.

The names of several hundred people were placed in a hat yesterday for a luncheon at the Savoy Hotel next week. The first 250 names drawn will attend.

Protest

New York, Mar. 26.

Police last night arrested ten persons, including women, who attempted to prevent a reception which was being given in honour of members of the United Nations Security Council at the Savoy Plaza.

The persons arrested were said to be members of a group opposed to the site which has been chosen for the U.N.O. home.—Associated Press.

Indian Note To S. Africa

Capetown, Mar. 26.

An official note from the Government of India, formally giving the South African Union Government notice terminating the agreement between two countries, reached the South African External Affairs Department yesterday, coinciding with Field Marshal Smuts' motion for a second reading of the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill.

"The terminating agreement is subject to three months' notice and will therefore end three months from yesterday.—Reuter.

Bomb Controlled By Two "Brains"

New York, March 26.

One of the strangest Buck Rogers inventions of World War II was the "Roc," a robot bomb directed by television which sought out its target through an electronic eye.

First projected in 1941, the "Roc" was fully tested and ready for combat when the atomic bomb put a halt to the Pacific war. Pilots who tested it say it would have found any target, blown it to bits and sent back a movie of how it was done.

In its final stages, the "Roc" resembled a long cigar with a ring-type shroud about the tail. Carrying 1000 pounds of high explosive, and nick-named the "Double Cookie Cutter," it could be directed against lights or any other target from miles away.

By the time development had reached the production stage in 1945, the "Roc" had two alternate "brains"—one a radio control operated by the bombardier of the parent plane.

Using a trick bomb-sight telescope, the bombardier observed a flare on the tail of the bomb, sailed it in to the target with remote radio control and a double gyro system.

Television Link

The second—and most remarkable—"brain" of the "Roc" was a complete television link between missile and bombardier, allowing him to see where the bomb was going and watch its explosion when it got there.

The amazing, compact television apparatus in the bomb itself was developed by R.C.A.'s laboratory at Princeton, N.J., and the bomb could be controlled from either ground or air.

The final model filmed its own progress in tests held in the Mojave Desert at night by picked crews keeping the bomb under a "nightgown" at all times except when in flight.

One test-model "Roc" buried itself so deeply beneath 28 feet of silt and earth that a huge clam-shell digger took three weeks to retrieve it.

Pessimistic Scientist

San Francisco, Mar. 26.

Dr. Irving Langmuir, director general of the electric research laboratory and Nobel Prize winner in chemistry, declared to-day that he estimated "it will be three or four years before the Russians have their first atomic bomb—in six or 10 years, both we and Russia will probably have enough to wipe each other out."

Dr. Langmuir was one of the 16 United States scientists who visited Russia last year.

"The May-Johnson Bill for atomic energy control, now before Congress, would be fatal to fundamental research. By its provisions, professors would not be able to tell students what is being done in nuclear physics," he said.—Associated Press.

What A Paying-off Pendant Is

The paying-off pendant—that thin, long ribbon which waterside residents often see flying from the masts of warships these days—is the only spectacular part of the end of a ship's commission.

The Navy, although by no means inhibited when it comes to ceremonies, pays off a ship with no more of a flutter than the "wearing" of this pendant. Even this is a purely unofficial custom. Nothing has been laid down in naval regulations, and wearing of the pendant is optional.

The custom originated in the Sixteenth Century, when sailors, joyful at the news of paying-off, tied their polishing rags together and hoisted them to the masthead.

However, bundles of rags so prominently displayed annoyed tidy-minded captains, who devised the present form of a long white calico pendant with a St. George's Cross at the end near the mast.

The length of the pendant is usually roughly the length of the ship.

In the Royal Navy, ships pay off every two years for refit, and the length of the pendant is proportionate to the period of the commission—that is, the length of the ship, plus or minus a yard for every month more or less than two years.

The pendant is worn on the Sunday before the ship sails for its home port. It is worn again on the day of sailing, on entering and leaving all ports on passage, and on arrival at the home port.

Lengths of ships have increased so much during the last half century that some pendants are as long as 800 feet. When one of these mammoths is used a balloon filled with hydrogen gas is tied to the end to keep it clear of the water. Before rubber was invented an inflated sheep's kidney, silvered, was used.

Usually, even big ships' pendants rarely exceed 300 feet, or wireless and radar aerials are apt to become fouled. When H.M.A.S. Australia returned to Sydney recently she wore a relatively small paying-off pendant for that reason.

Some Royal Naval aircraft-carriers have recently steamed out of Sydney Harbour trailing a full 800 odd feet.

During the war the custom was not practised, for the Navy preferred not to advertise so blatantly that one of its ships would be out of commission.

Independence If She Wants It

New Delhi, Mar. 26.

The Cabinet Mission which is now here yesterday reaffirmed the British Government's pledge of independence for India if it wants it.

Lord Pethick Lawrence, Secretary of State for India, said in a prepared statement "The discussions, now to begin are preliminary to the setting of a policy whereby the form under which India can realise her full independent status can be determined by the Indians."

He added "We believe ourselves that India will find great advantage" in remaining a member of the British Commonwealth. "We have no desire to press India to stay in it against her considered judgment."—Associated Press.

RACING NEWS

London, March 26.

Victoria Club call-over to-day on the Lincolnshire Handicap:—10 to 1 Longton Abbot offered, 11 to 1 taken, 100 to 8 Rustic offered 13 to 1 taken, 100 to 7 Prawn Curry offered, 100 to 6 Treasury offered, 100 to 6 Lorette offered, 20 to 1 Effervescence offered 22 to 1 taken, 25 to 1 Caderace taken and offered, 25 to 1, Giraud offered 28 to 1 taken, 28 to 1 Poolfix taken and offered, 33 to 1 Hangover taken and offered 33 to 1 Anglesey offered 40 to 1 taken, 33 to 1 Timanova offered, 33 to 1 Frosty Moon offered, 35 to 1 Eric's Folly offered, 40 to 1 Shennington offered 45 to 1 taken, 40 to 1 Dijon taken, 40 to 1 Settlement offered 45 to 1 taken, 45 to 1 Beringhi offered 50 to 1 wanted, 50 to 1 Don Pasquales offered 66 to 1 taken.

Grand National call-over:—7 to 2 Prince Regent offered 4 to 1 taken and wanted, 100 to 9 Linestone Edward offered, 100 to 6 Poor Flame offered, 20 to 1 Kami offered, 25 to 1 Red Rower offered, 25 to 1 Dunshaughlin offered, 28 to 1 Schubert offered, 33 to 1 Symbole offered, 33 to 1 Knight's Crest offered, 40 to 1 Loughcoun offered, MacMoffat offered, Post Prince offered, Suzerain offered, Domani Hackle offered, 50 to 1 Lovely Cottage offered, ChaKA offered.

Prince Regent, the favourite, was the only horse backed when the Grand National call-over was held at the Victoria Club to-day and he was supported to win £4,000. It opened at 4 to 1 and backers were eager to continue at this price but when 7 to 2 came as the best offer there were no takers. The shrinkage in price was partly due to the fact that one of the chief rivals, Chaka, is a doubtful starter, having injured himself. Knight's Crest's win at Wetherby on Saturday caused his price to cut several points.

The best backed Lincolnshire horse was the favourite Longton Abbott, who is supported to win £12,000. Dijon is backed to win £8,000 and Don Pasquales £7,000.

Rustic's price shortened to 100 to 8 after being supported to win £5,000, while Giraud is backed to win £6,000 and Anglesey to win £7,000 also had good support.

The next call-over for both races will be March 28.—Reuter.

RULES FOR IDEAL MARRIED LIFE

London, March 26.

A 70-year-old woman who has just inherited her husband's entire £18,750 estate, to-day laid down three golden rules for women who want an ideally happy married life.

She is Mrs. Copley Howitt, of Aylesford (Kent).

The rules are:

Think of other people—not about yourself.

Have children.

Share your husband's interests.

Mrs. Hewitt kept the rules so well that her husband, a former City of London official, said of her in his will.

"Her patience, forbearance, and loving kindness have made this beautiful world seem to me more beautiful."

"Wanton Destruction"

Batavia, Mar. 26.

A British military spokesman, discussing the scheduled Indonesian army evacuation of the southern part of Bandoeng, which has been a scene of recent trouble about 100 miles from Batavia, reported most of the civilians were evacuating to British-controlled northern Bandoeng rather than fleeing southward.

The spokesman said he was shocked at the "wanton destruction" in the southern part of the city. Mostly the destruction was in residential neighbourhoods, which could not handicap or impede British forces and would only work hardship on the populace. Among the destroyed buildings were an orphanage, a railway station and a civilian telephone exchange.

The occupation plan of the British Indian army was speeded yesterday to prevent a recurrence of Sunday night's destruction and further suffering of civilians.

"It was decided to request a peaceful withdrawal (of the Indonesians) with ample warning "because we did not want another Sourabaya in which everybody suffered," the British spokesman said. British forces, however, were prepared for any eventuality.—Associated Press.

Boy Asks Navy For U-Boat

London, Mar. 26.

Terry Keyes, 8, of Christchurch (Hampshire), asked the British Admiralty for a U-boat.

The Admiralty sent him a large model of the German battleship Tirpitz.

Terry addressed this letter to the Admiralty:—

"I have been reading in a magazine that you're sinking U-boats. If you want to get rid of them as easy as that, why not let me have one? I don't mind if it's a bit damaged."

Three weeks later he received an official-looking letter, complete with Admiralty crests and code words.

The letter, signed by an Admiralty official, stated: "I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to explain that all surplus U-boats have been sunk by agreement with the United States and Russian Governments.

"As an exceptional measure, however, and as a mark of the interest with which they read your letter, My Lords have pleasure in forwarding you the enclosed model of the German battleship Tirpitz.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant.—E. W. Austin."

I.N.A. Officer Not Guilty

New Delhi, Mar. 26.

Jemal Zaman Khan, a member of the Japanese-sponsored "Indian National Army" was to-day found not guilty by a Court Martial here of five charges of cruelty alleged to have been committed in a prisoner-of-war camp in Singapore, in October, 1942.

He is the first accused officer of the "Indian National Army" to be acquitted by a Court Martial. The findings of the court were confirmed by Air Marshal Sir Roderick Carr, Deputy Commander-in-Chief.—Reuter.

Arab Committee Reconstituted

Jerusalem, Mar. 26.

Jamal Hussein Bey, leader of the Palestine Arab Party, and "strong man" of Palestine Arab politics announced to-day the reconstitution of the Arab Higher Committee with 29 members instead of the present twelve, and with an Executive Committee of five.

The new constitution of ten years of the Higher Committee increases the Palestine Arab Party representatives to seven and brings in the Arab Trade Unionist bloc, the Arab National League of Liberation and the Farmers' Party, who have hitherto not been represented. Ten of the Committee's twenty-nine members will be Independents.

When the new Committee meets for the first time to-morrow it is expected to discuss the proposal to set up machinery enabling Palestine Arabs to elect their own representatives to the Committee.

The Arab League Council last night unanimously passed a resolution supporting Egypt's "national aspirations". The resolution will be sent to all the Arab States for ratification by their Government, after which it will be communicated to Britain.—Reuter.

PLUTONE "DENATURED"

Washington, March 26.

Under-Secretary of State Dean Acheson told the senate atomic energy committee to-day that scientists have discovered how to "denature" plutone so that its atomic energy could be used only for industrial purposes. Plutone is one of the keys to atomic bomb production.

He said a licensing system is under consideration for control of usable raw materials.

One senator said the problem of sharing atomic energy secrets with the rest of the world may be "very much simplified" if the "denaturing" process proved practical.—Associated Press.

RADIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27th, 1946

CLASSICAL REQUEST HOUR

ZBW HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 640 Kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 9.52 Megacycles.

H.K.T.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Music from the Films.
1.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.
1.10 p.m.—Debroy Somers Band.
1.30 p.m.—Boston Promenade Orchestra.
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
6.30 p.m.—Charlie Barnet & His Orchestra with Dinah Shore (Vocal).
7.00 p.m.—London Relay—News.
7.15 p.m.—" Piano Playtime "—ENSA.
7.30 p.m.—Music and Songs from the Shows.
8.00 p.m.—"Classical Request Hour.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay—News.
9.05 p.m.—"Services Music Hall"—ENSA.
9.35 p.m.—"Singers on Parade".
9.50 p.m.—London Palladium Orchestra.
10.10 p.m.—Terence Casey at the Organ.
10.30 p.m.—Music for Dancing.
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

Programmes marked ENSA are recorded specially for Services Entertainment by the Department of National Services Entertainment.

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